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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

FRONT PAGE

INTER-EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Romania's Nastase on Importance of WEU Conference *[ROMPRES]* 2
'Visegrad Three' Discuss Efforts To Join EC *[MTI]* 2
Bulgarian Reform Highlighted at Forum on Europe *[BTA]* 2

ALBANIA

Foreign Ministry Protests Serbian Government Acts *[ATA]* 4
'More Than 3,000' Arms Industry Workers Strike *[AFP]* 4
Strike 'Purely Economic' *[Tirana Radio]* 4
Zhulali on New Defense Policy, Joining NATO *[Tirana Radio]* 4

BULGARIA

Turkish Military Units To Withdraw From Border *[BTA]* 5
Dimitrov Returns From Greece; Assesses Visit *[BTA]* 5
Podrepa Strike Continues in Varna, Ruse, Plovdiv *[Sofia Radio]* 6
Government, Trade Union Negotiate *[Sofia Radio]* 6
Neftokhim Managers Explain Protest Background *[BTA]* 6
Trade Union Talks With Dimitrov *[BTA]* 7
Disintegration of Intelligence Services Discussed *[DUMA 17 Jun]* 7
Diplomatic Consultations Conducted With Norway *[BTA]* 8

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Slovak Government Sworn In; Meciar Gives Speech *[Bratislava Radio]* 9
Briefs Press on Primary Tasks *[Bratislava Radio]* 10
Says Roots of Crisis 'Very Deep' *[Prague Radio]* 10
Interviewed on New Government *[Bratislava Radio]* 10
Klaus Says No MFDS Objections to Nominations *[Prague Radio]* 12
Meciar Comments on Nominations *[Prague Radio]* 12
New Slovak Deputy Premier: Referendum 'Inevitable' *[CSTK]* 12
Defense Minister on Implications of Break-Up *[Prague Radio]* 13

HUNGARY

Prime Minister Warns of Tensions in East Europe *[MTI]* 14
UN Embargo of Yugoslavia Causes Economic Losses *[Budapest Radio]* 14

ROMANIA

Ministry Denies Sending Helicopters to Dniester *[Bucharest Radio]* 15
Students Demand Political Solution in Dniester *[ROMPRES]* 15
Ministry Spokesman Comments on Russian Treaty *[ROMPRES]* 15
Officials on Moldova, 'Street Children', Credits *[ROMPRES]* 15
Press Condemns Western Attitude Toward Dniester *[ROMPRES]* 16
Iliescu Gives Interview on Domestic Changes *[LIBERTATEA 9-10 Jun]* 16
Stolojan's Chances as Presidential Candidate Viewed *[ROMPRES]* 18
UDMR President on Minority, Electoral Issues *[ROMPRES]* 18

BOSNIA-HERCEGOVINA

Serbian Forces in Sarajevo Promise Cooperation *[Zagreb Radio]* 20
Special Police Unit Formed in Sarajevo 24 Jun *[SRNA]* 20
Jajce Shelled, Besieged by Serbian Forces *[Zagreb Radio]* 20
Serbian Democratic Party 'Officially Banned' *[Sarajevo Radio]* 20
Biographic Details on Serbian Army Commander *[DELO 6 Jun]* 20

CROATIA

Tudjman Sets Presidential Election for 2 Aug *[Zagreb TV]* 23
Election Procedures Outlined *[Zagreb Radio]* 23
Artillery Reportedly Bombards Serb Krajina Capital *[TANJUG]* 23
Attack Undermines Peace Plan *[TANJUG]* 24
Serbian Talks in Cavtat Produce No Result *[TANJUG]* 24
Army Battalion Pulls Out of Pakrac Region *[Zagreb Radio]* 24
Diplomatic Relations Established With Great Britain *[Zagreb Radio]* 25
Parliament Deputies Criticize Ljubljanska Banka *[DNEVNIK 8 Jun]* 25

SLOVENIA

Foreign Minister Rupel on Policy Objectives *[DELO 3 Jun]* 26
JAT Offices Threatened With Closure *[DNEVNIK 3 Jun]* 27

YUGOSLAVIA

International

UN Committee Approves Humanitarian Flights *[TANJUG]* 28
Army Denies Tutwiler Statement on Air Violations *[TANJUG]* 28

Federal

Cosic Says 'Outside Factors' Want 'Capitulation' *[TANJUG]* 28

Serbia

Assembly Calls For 'Radical Changes' in Government *[TANJUG]* 29

Kosovo

President Rugova Views Situation, Tasks *[MAGYAR HIRLAP 19 Jun]* 29

Romania

Bucharest radio reports that, according to a ITAR-TASS report, six Mi-24 military helicopters coming from Romania landed during the night of 25 June in the Republic of Moldova. The radio further reports that the Romanian army replied: "The news reported by ITAR-TASS is a tendentious false report that wants to justify the involvement of the 14th Army...."

According to ROMPRES, Traian Chebeleu, spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, stated: "The Romanian-Russian ties are normal, there is nothing spectacular to announce in this respect, the presence of units of the 14th Army in the Republic of Moldova is destabilising."

Bulgaria

BTA reports that "Turkish Armed Forces" along the Bulgarian-Turkish border "will be withdrawn from the region of Kirklareli and Pinarhisar in the morning of 3 July." The "redeployment" of Turkish forces to the "interior" of the country is a result of the implementation of the Sofia document.

Sofia radio reports that "the effective strike" in the two Varna ports, organized by the Podkrepa National Trade Union, continues. The radio further reports that "as many as eight ships have been prevented from sailing." During negotiations with the Romanian Government—held at the Council of Ministers Headquarters—Ilich Tsvetkov, vice president of the Podkrepa National Trade Union, stated: "The government must defend our interests at the National Council of Social Partnership not because it is partial to the Podkrepa National Trade Union, but because it should be on the side of the law."

Yugoslavia

International—According to TANJUG, the UN Security Council Sanctions Committee approved requested overflights with humanitarian aid for the Serbian Krajinas in Croatia and Bosnia-Hercegovina.

TANJUG carried the following statement issued by the Information Service of the Yugoslav Army chief of staff: "Respecting above all its own borders as defined by the FRY Constitution, as well as the UN Security Council decision, the Yugoslav Army and its Air Force have not violated the airspace of any neighboring country, including the airspace of Bosnia-Hercegovina, since 19 May." This statement was made in response to U.S. State Department Spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler's comment: "We have reports about occasionally fierce clashes, Serbian bombardment, and attacks by the Federal Aviation in some parts of Bosnia."

Croatia

In an address carried by Zagreb TV, President Franjo Tudjman called for Assembly and presidency elections on 2 August. He stated "we are implementing the provisions of the new Croatian Constitution which was adopted by the Croatian Assembly on 22 December 1990." Zagreb radio reports that "the president is to be elected for a five-year term" by majority vote.

Albania

According to AFP, 3,000 munitions workers have been on strike for the last week in the Albanian town of Polican. The strike was called in protest to poor working conditions. In response to the strike, Albanian Finance Minister Genc Ruli appealed to the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development on 23 June for help "to transfer the country's military industries to civilian purposes."

Romania's Nastase on Importance of WEU Conference

AU2306100092 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0918 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 23/6/1992—Addressing the ministerial meeting of the Western European Union [WEU] and of the Eastern European countries, devoted to the situation in former socialist countries, held in Bonn, Romanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Adrian Nastase emphasised that the meeting is an important event in the continent's life, opening a new stage in the cooperation among the states member of the Western European Union and the eight countries in Central Europe.

Our government—the speaker said—attaches a special importance to the meeting of the Western European Union and to its role, increasing the security of the continent. We see the domains and mechanisms convened for dialogue, consultations and cooperation among the states member of the Western European Union and the eight Central European countries as a beginning, as the first steps towards the much more ambitious goals of integrating our countries into the union's structures. We are determined to develop our relations with the Western European Union as much as possible, in the common path towards the aforementioned targets.

Romania is ready to participate in any form of cooperation with the Western European Union where the eight countries are allowed in this stage. Like other states, Romania is interested in getting the status of associate to the Western European Union. Of course, we are ready not only to benefit from the advantages in the security plane, born from the status of associate to the Western European Union, but also to assume all obligations involved in such a status.

The Romanian Government—Mr. Adrian Nastase showed—would appreciate especially the invitation of the eight partner countries to the meetings of the Council of Ministers, of the Permanent Council and of the special groups, when analysis is made of questions concerning Central Europe's security and stability. We should appreciate very much to welcome in Bucharest—still this year if possible—the representatives of the states member of the Western European Union in the Permanent Council.

As a country on the Black Sea shore, the speaker went on, Romania is normally interested in the activity of "the working group for the Mediterranean," of the Permanent Council of the Western European Union. This is why we should like to become associates to the activities of that group. Till then, pragmatic formulas of cooperation could be resorted to, which might give us the opportunity to acknowledge the group about our opinions and, on the other hand, the possibility to have access to its reports which are relevant for our security concerns.

Conscious of the crucial role of the transparency and openness in the military field, the Romanian Government is ready to invite observers of the Western European Union to the significant military activities of its Armed Forces and to accept the eventual invitations to participate in such military activities to be arranged by the French-German corps and—in perspective—by a future European armed force, our country's representative stated.

As a useful means meant to favour a closer military cooperation we could envisage the training in common of the armed forces of the states member of the Western European Union and of the partner countries for future activities of maintaining peace under the CSCE aegis.

'Visegrad Three' Discuss Efforts To Join EC

LD2306181792 Budapest MTI in English 1756 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Paris, June 23 (MTI)—Although the separation of Bohemia and Slovakia could entail changes in the cooperation between the "Visegrad Three" (Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia), it is not expected to end it, and will not slow down efforts for full membership of the European Community.

This was the conclusion reached by the ambassadors of the three countries accredited to Paris, at a conference held in the International Academy of Diplomacy in Paris on Tuesday [23 June].

Ambassadors Janos Szavai of Hungary, Jaroslav Sedivy of Czechoslovakia, and Jerzy Lukaszewski of Poland detailed the views of their governments on the development of the Visegrad cooperation, and the integration of the Central-European countries into the European Community.

Szavai noted the Hungarian Government had, from the very beginning, considered a full-scale involvement in European integration as its fundamental target, and coordinates its foreign policy with the joint decisions taken by community members. The goal of Hungary's economic policy is for the country to meet the conditions of membership in all respects, as soon as possible.

Bulgarian Reform Highlighted at Forum on Europe

AU2206083092 Sofia BTA in English 1828 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Crans Montana, June 21 (BTA)—A Bulgarian delegation, led by Mr. Aleksandur Yordanov, chairman of the National Assembly Foreign Policy Committee and floor leader of the parliamentary group of the Union of Democratic Forces, took part in a three-day international political and economic forum on the subject of "The Common European Home—Realities and Prospects."

Mr. Aleksandur Yordanov read the main report at the first plenary session devoted to the problem of deepening and expansion of the European space. He pointed out Bulgaria's role in the stability and European identity of the Balkans. Great interest was shown in the information on the genuine replacement of this country's economic and political system and the peaceful transition concept, especially at the background of deep conflicts and contradictions in the other East European countries, particularly in former Yugoslavia and the former Soviet Union. According to a number of politicians, Bulgaria is really a little European miracle. That is why special attention was paid to the Bulgarian genuine reform during the three days of the forum.

Special sessions were held within the framework of the basic plenary work, concentrating on the situation in those countries which face the most serious problems in their transition to genuine democracy and a market economy. None of these special sessions was devoted to Bulgaria, which proves it has built up a serious image for itself in the heart of Europe.

The statement of Mr. Zhan Videnov, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party, who said that the changes in Bulgaria are irreversible and that any reversion to the past is impossible, made a great impression at the press conference given by the Bulgarian delegation.

Foreign Ministry Protests Serbian Government Acts

AU2406152492 Tirana ATA in English 0913 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Tirana, June 24 (ATA)—The Foreign Ministry of Albania condemns in its statement the recent acts of the Serb Government and calls on the international community especially on the CSCE member countries, the European Community, and other international organisms to do the utmost to prevent such provoking acts which intend to give rise to the new conflict in Kosovo, whose consequences will weigh down not only on Kosovo and Balkan peoples, but broader.

'More Than 3,000' Arms Industry Workers Strike

AU2406155392 Paris AFP in English 1516 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Tirana, June 24 (AFP) — More than 3,000 munitions workers have been on strike for the last week in the Albanian town of Polican, south of Tirana, the journal PASQYRE said here Wednesday [24 June].

The strike—the first to be reported in Albania's military sector—was called in protest at working conditions.

Around half the employees have contracted occupational illnesses, and 40 percent have been permanently disabled as a result of dangerous working conditions, PASQYRE said, quoting a local union for munitions workers. It said almost half of the 6,800 people living in Polican, close to Berat, worked at the factory.

Albanian Finance Minister Genc Ruli appealed to the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Tuesday for help to transfer the country's military industries to civilian purposes.

Albania has two munitions factories—at Polican and at Gramsh in the east. Both manufacture rifles and machine-guns, Ruli told AFP. He said both were equipped with Chinese technology which is superior to most civilian industries in Albania.

Strike 'Purely Economic'

AU2406195792 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1730 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] A statement by the Presidium of the Independent Trade Union Federation of Civilian Defense Workers says that the Defense Ministry spokesman has informed the public about the progress of the strike of the workers at the Polican Engineering Combine. We are saying nothing new when we stress the fact the 11 strike demands are purely economic. We emphasize the fact all the insinuations that attempt to cast slurs on the strike and to claim that it is led by certain political forces are baseless attempts to mislead the public.

After voicing a demand for democratic tolerance, the statement stresses that, if the directors of the Defense Ministry had expressed a serious commitment to settling the strike demands, the strike, as the president of the Republic himself has put it, would have taken a different course and work would not be suspended today.

Zhulali on New Defense Policy, Joining NATO

AU2406200592 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1730 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] With the victory of democracy and our country's opening to the world, Albania is defining a new defense policy in accordance with NATO's new strategy after the end of the cold war, Defense Minister Mr. Safet Zhulali told an ATA correspondent. We welcome the new spirit that has arisen, with the easing of tension and the work of international organizations to eliminate crises and conflicts. In this context, we count as very positive the agreement reached by Presidents Bush and Yeltsin for further cuts in strategic weapons.

The Albanian defense minister expressed readiness for cooperation with other countries, because this cooperation increases the spirit of understanding, strengthens bilateral relations with countries with whom we have common interests, and helps the efforts that are being made to integrate Albania into NATO. The results of this cooperation will influence the steps to be taken later. For the moment, when we are not included in any alliance and the country's independence is in danger, especially when Serbia is preparing for conflicts in Kosovo, we are obliged to meet a defense expenditure that is beyond our resources.

Mr. Zhulali pointed out Albania's commitment to and efforts toward policies of good-neighborliness, the preservation of peace, and stability in the Balkans. He emphasized that every reduction of tension in our region, every success in military cooperation, and the acceptance of our application to join NATO will enable Albania and the other countries of East Europe to accomplish the changes that Europe and the world expect from them. We envisage a future 30-percent cut in our armed forces and expect to cut our military expenditure by half within a period of one year.

Turkish Military Units To Withdraw From Border

AU2406172692 Sofia BTA in English 1643 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Exerpt] Sofia, June 24 (BTA)—Two battalions (an armoured and an infantry one) of the Turkish Armed Forces in the 15-kilometer zone along the Bulgarian-Turkish border will be withdrawn from the region of Kirklareli and Pinarhisar in the morning of July 3, BTA learnt from the Ministry of Defense. The redeployment of these two military units in the interior of the country is in implementation of the Sofia Document for strengthening confidence and security between the two countries, signed by the general staffs of Bulgaria and Turkey. Journalists are invited to observe the withdrawal of the military units. [passage omitted]

Dimitrov Returns From Greece; Assesses Visit

AU2406112592 Sofia BTA in English 1950 GMT 23 Jun 92

["Today"—BTA lead]

[Text] Sofia, June 23 (BTA)—Prime Minister Filip Dimitrov returned from Thessaloniki today. He attended the opening of the Europartnership '92 Forum. He said that the invitation to participation in the forum had come as an acknowledgement of the interest which the EC countries take in Bulgaria and of the fact that they regard Bulgaria as a suitable negotiating partner. The invitation is also proof of the fine relations between Bulgaria and Greece, as the invitation was initiated by Greece.

Foreign Minister Stoyan Ganev today received Mr. Ivan Baba, deputy state secretary at the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, BTA learnt from the Foreign Ministry spokeswoman.

The two discussed questions concerning the need of more vigorous bilateral cooperation and topical international problems of shared concern.

The representatives of the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] advocate the idea of national reconciliation and call on the president for a serious dialogue with all political forces, the party's leaders told a regular news conference today. They reacted to the desire for national reconciliation expressed by President Zhelyu Zhelev. In a televised interview on Saturday in connection with his Latin American tour, Dr. Zhelev said among other things that "we should return to the reconciliation idea, and if it is too early for that, in any case the people who artificially stir up tensions should be isolated."

It is nonsense to talk about national reconciliation in Bulgaria at this stage, SDS [Union of Democratic Forces] spokesman Mikhail Nedelchev told a news conference today. In his view, reconciliation is out of the question before the process of decommunization is completed and the culprits for the national catastrophe are punished. When the SDS is talking about a consensus, the idea is to rally the whole society behind the idea of a replacement of the system, the SDS floor leader Aleksandur Yordanov said for his part.

President Zhelyu Zhelev attended today's meeting of the SDS parliamentary faction. Before his coming some MP's predicted that Dr. Zhelev intended to make some remarks on the Pensions Act Amendments Act and may impose a suspensory veto on it.

On his way out of the meeting the president told the press that it had been an ordinary meeting of like-minded people. Asked whether he would veto the act passed by parliament, Dr. Zhelev said "wait and see."

The leader of the Bulgarian Business Bloc George Ganchev said the bloc aspired to rally the centrist forces in Bulgaria. Speaking at a news conference today, Mr. Ganchev predicted a shift of political layers before the end of the year, which would result in new parliamentary elections. In the next National Assembly, the Bulgarian Business Bloc will be tangibly represented, according to Mr. Ganchev.

"Not within the BDC [Bulgarian Democratic Center] but with the BDC in elections, is the new formula which will be followed by the Green Party after it left the Bulgarian Democratic Centre. The main reason was the fact that the political centre failed to bring together all centrist-oriented forces.

The chairman of the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party Dr. Petur Dertliev declared himself in favour of a declassification of the Secret Police files of all publicly responsible persons. At a news conference today he read excerpts from his own file from the late 40's and the early 50's when he was imprisoned. Society will purge itself in this way, the social democratic leader believes.

The personnel has been renewed in almost all 15 customs offices in the country, the chief of the General Customs Directorate Khristo Kulishev told BTA today. Some 90 percent of the personnel hold university degrees. This team is expected to improve the standard of operation of the customs authorities in a market environment.

Mechatronika, a company manufacturing industrial electronics and based in Gabrovo, Central Bulgaria, will probably sustain substantial losses as a result of the embargo imposed on Serbia and Montenegro. If the sanctions are not lifted, an already signed contract for over 140,000 dollars will have to be canceled. Mechatronika experts are working on an induction mixer installation of their own design for Serbian metallurgy.

85.8 million leva will be invested in the construction of new environmental protection projects and the completion of ones which are being built. These are the estimates of the municipality which drafted a comprehensive programme for the improvement of the urban environment. There are plans to gasify 14 local combustion installations, to build and update industrial affluent

treatment plants and introduce new technologies, to rebuild the city's plumbing system etc. A total of 226 million leva have been spent over the last three years on such projects and six environment- and health-hazard productions have been discontinued.

The new curriculum of the Ministry of Education and Science was the main subject of a news conference of the Union of Bulgarian Teachers today. According to the Teachers' Trade Union, the curriculum is "the latest in a series of experiments with a million and a half pupils" which will not help at all the educational reform in Bulgaria. According to the trade union's predictions, the new curriculum will result in the loss of some 20,000 teachers' jobs.

An international mathematical seminar was opened in the resort of Voneshta Voda (central Bulgaria) today. It was organized by the Institute of Problem Transfer of Information with the Russian Academy of Sciences. Scientists from nine European countries and the United States are discussing topical questions concerning the building of modern information systems.

The Union of Library and Information Workers started its second national conference in Sofia today. It was organized together with the Ministry of Culture and the Open Society Fund—Sofia. Taking part are librarians and information experts from Britain, the United States, Israel and other countries. They will discuss questions concerning information work in a market environment, the use of computer technologies in the key library processes etc.

Podrepa Strike Continues in Varna, Ruse, Plovdiv

AU2406182292 Sofia Khristo Botev Radio Network in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] The effective strike in the two Varna ports, organized by the Podkrepa National Trade Union, continues. As many as eight ships have been prevented from sailing.

On the third day of the effective strike 60 dock workers, mechanics, and sailors have joined the strike in the Ruse Port Complex. The losses caused by the strike already exceed 100,000 leva.

The Strike Committee of the National Railroad Workers Trade Union, which is a member of the Podkrepa National Trade Union, the Strike Committee of the Plovdiv Railroad Workers, and the regional leadership of the Plovdiv Podkrepa Labor Confederation have met to discuss the situation in Plovdiv today. The railroad workers are ready for strike while six junctions and 15 minor railway stations are supporting the strikers.

Government, Trade Union Negotiate

AU2406195492 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1900 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Report by Petur Donchev from Council of Ministers Headquarters]

[Text] Unfortunately, four and a half hours were not sufficient to reach an agreement between Mr. Nikola Vasilev, deputy prime minister, and the delegation of the Podkrepa National Trade Union at the Council of Ministers headquarters today.

According to Mr. Vasilev, the Podkrepa National Trade Union demanded that the Council of Ministers should defend its interests at the National Council of Social Partnership, but the deputy prime minister explained that the government is not in a position to assume such a commitment.

Ilich Tsvetkov, vice president of the Podkrepa National Trade Union, in turn, declared: The government must defend our interests at the National Council of Social Partnership not because it is partial to the Podkrepa National Trade Union, but because it should be on the side of the law. Tsvetkov also added that the government and the Podkrepa National Trade Union are both being subjected to certain conditions by a third party, on which the settlement of the question depends. He did not explain what this third party was, but he evidently meant the Podkrepa Labor Confederation, or perhaps the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria [KNSB] considering that decisions should be adopted on the basis of consensus.

There is even more: The government demanded that the strike should be canceled as a preliminary condition for reaching a solution, while the Podkrepa National Trade Union insisted that the strike should only be interrupted for a short time and should continue if no solution were achieved.

Hence, the negotiations are expected to continue tomorrow morning at the Council of Ministers. Let us hope that a settlement may be reached. This is all I can say for the time being.

Neftokhim Managers Explain Protest Background

AU2406203692 Sofia BTA in English 1905 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Sofia, June 24 (BTA)—Neftokhim Inc., Bulgaria's major petrol producer, posted a 930 million leva profit in 1991. Three months later, on March 31, it owed 4,000 million leva and is losing 60 million leva per month. Neftokhim's director Matey Mateev, appointed in mid-April, gave a news conference today at the Ministry of Industry, trying to explain the causes of the financial difficulties of the state company, a profitable monopoly producer until recently.

According to Mr. Mateev, the major cause is unfair competition by oil products imported under the cooperatives act, which allows some cooperatives and foundations to carry out economic activity including import exempt from excise duty. Mincho Ivanov, Neftokhim's executive director, told the press this has led to an absurd situation where tax-free imported oil is "flooding", the Bulgarian market, while the sole local producer,

Neftokhim, has less than 5 per cent of the local market because it pays 35 per cent excise duty on petrol and 25 per cent on diesel oil, which makes its products non-competitive. Six months ago a draft amendment to the cooperatives act was submitted to the Council of Ministers, Neftokhim's leaders said, but the government considered it this week after workers at the Burgas-based Neftokhim Petrochemical Works threatened to go on strike and some left for Sofia to protest in front of the building of parliament. Their representatives gathered around the building yesterday and today. At today's sitting parliament decided to discuss their demands tomorrow.

At an average annual consumption in this country of 800,000 tonnes of petrol and 1.5 million tonnes of diesel oil, the exchequer will lose about 6,000 million leva in unpaid excise duty, Mr. Ivanov told the news conference.

According to Mr. Mateev, Neftokhim's financial collapse is also largely due to the contract for oil import concluded in 1991 by the Khimimport Foreign Trade Corporation and the Bulgarian National Bank. The oil supply was financed from the first tranche of the world bank loan. The director general claims that the terms of the contract were unfavourable, high transportation costs raised the prices of the products, while Neftokhim's leaders learned about the contract a few months later, Director General Mateev said.

Mr. Belov, director general of Khimimport which is the most profitable Bulgarian foreign trade organization, told the news conference that in his view, the import of Russian oil is most profitable for Bulgaria, which seems to be underestimated by this country's leaders.

Fuel production is still subsidized by the state. A special commission with the Council of Ministers fixes fuel prices every two weeks. In February 1991, when the economic reform was launched, the government partly liberalized energy prices and undertook the commitment to gradually increase the prices of energy sources until they reach the world prices. Now Bulgarians pay about two-thirds of the real cost of energy, one-fifth of the cost of heat energy and less than half the cost of petrol. Fuel prices are expected to rise after the new customs tariff schedule becomes effective on July 1.

Trade Union Talks With Dimitrov

AU2406203792 Sofia BTA in English 1916 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Sofia, June 24 (BTA)—Representatives of the Trade Union of Workers in the Petrochemical Industry with the Podkrepa Labor Confederation - Burgas listed their demands to the government at a meeting with Prime Minister Filip Dimitrov this afternoon. Stoyan Gutov, chairman of the trade union, told BTA the prime minister agreed that Neftokhim can be helped out of its predicament. In connection with reports that Neftokhim will be subject to privatization in the first stage of this process, Filip Dimitrov said that Neftokhim cannot be privatized now.

Stoyan Gutov said the prime minister confirmed the cabinet's view that first a competition for managers should be held to which foreign entrants should be admitted.

Mr. Gutov said that during the meeting the workers realized it is possible to negotiate solutions to so far unsettled problems. "I hope the sides will reach a reasonable compromise," Mr. Gutov said.

The petrochemical workers will submit their demands and views on Neftokhim's problems to Deputy Prime Minister Nikola Vasilev at the Council of Ministers tomorrow.

Disintegration of Intelligence Services Discussed

AU2306202692 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 17 Jun 92 p 4

[Article by Vasil Popov: "Bulgarian Intelligence Is Now Neither a Shield Nor a Commodity"]

[Text] The chiefs of the intelligence and counterintelligence services reported to the Parliamentary National Security Commission that following a series of administrative decisions and dismissals, the Republic of Bulgaria has nothing left with which to carry out intelligence activities. Chieftan Savov became enraged at the possibility that reporters may tell the public the truth, and he threatened to ask a public prosecutor to act against them if they did so.

Speaking about the new world realities, leading U.S. intelligence officials are trying to renew and justify the goals and aims of their own special services. Professor Weinstein considers that even an old democracy like the United States has to review the role of its intelligence agencies.

The struggle against international terrorism, narcotics trafficking, the mafia, and a multitude of other ills affecting democratic society could be waged by pooling the efforts of the special services that no longer work in the interest of a single ideology. Leaders of organizations like the CIA believe that the professionalism and experience that they possess as organizations and their cadre potential should not be wasted.

At the same time, our clever politicians are destroying the intelligence services under the slogan of decommunization. According to them, state-socialist espionage was a terrible thing, yet now, if some company wants to engage in economic espionage, let it go ahead, because that is something quite different.

The confrontation between the blocs has disappeared, so that we no longer need the First and Second Chief Directorates, because we have new foreign policy priorities; nor do we need the Intelligence Directorate of the

Bulgarian Army General Staff in its previous form. This is the hatchet job that Ludzhev carried out as deputy prime minister and defense minister. Khristo Danov (former interior minister) and Yordan Sokolov also sang to his tune.

Another person who is singing the same tune, and even playing first violin, is Stoyan Ganev, whose ministry has lately begun to dismiss staff included in "that list" No. 2. We should not forget that intelligence information and its analysis provide a basis for the foreign policy of every country. So far as it is known, this Russian-educated state traitor [Ganev] is unlikely to be made to answer for his deeds in the near future.

At a conference with the spy bosses Nikolay Slatinski, parliament's security overseer, said that we have to restore society's trust in the secret services and prevent individual persons or political forces from influencing them.

That is all very well, but Bulgaria has wasted its espionage services as a component of our national security. It has also lost it as a commodity, says a dismissed spy who was worn out by overwork.

Diplomatic Consultations Conducted With Norway

AU2406172792 Sofia BTA in English 1624 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Sofia, June 24 (BTA)—Bulgarian-Norwegian political consultations on bilateral relations and the international situation were held here today, BTA learnt from the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry. The consultations were conducted by the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway, Ms. Helga Hernes, and by Deputy Foreign Minister Dimitur Tsanev.

The two sides assessed positively the political, economic and cultural relations between Bulgarian and Norway. They stressed the new possibilities for their further promotion against the background of the democratic changes in Bulgaria and the new realities in the European continent.

Ms. Hernes showed special interest in the political situation in the Balkans and in the Bulgarian stand on the problems in the region. Both sides stressed the necessity for the hostilities in former Yugoslavia to stop and for finding just and lasting solutions to the conflict in compliance with the norms of International Law.

A mutual wish was expressed to step up Bulgarian-Norwegian relations on a bilateral and multilateral basis.

Slovak Government Sworn In; Meciar Gives Speech
LD2406123892

[Editorial report] Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak at 1030 GMT on 24 June carries a 20-minute live relay from Bratislava Castle of the swearing-in ceremony of the new Slovak Government.

The ceremony begins with Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar taking the oath of office. The text of the oath is read out by Secansky, member of ther Slovak National Council Presidium for the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia.

At 1035 GMT, the names of the new members of the Slovak Government are read out as follows:

"Roman Kovac, deputy chairman of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of Control of the Slovak Republic.

"Milan Knazko, deputy chairman of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of International Relations of the Slovak Republic.

"(Ludovit Cernak), minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic. At the same time, he is in charge of the Ministry of Industry of the Slovak Republic and of the Ministry of Trade and Tourism of the Slovak Republic.

"(Julius Toth), minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic.

"Olga Keltosova, minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the Slovak Republik.

"(Jozef Zlocha), minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Slovak Commission for Environment as its chairman.

"Lubomir Dolgos, minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry for the Administration and Privatization of National Property of the Slovak Republic.

"Peter Baco, minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Slovak Republic. At the same, he is in charge of the Ministry of Forestry and Water Economy of the Slovak Republic.

"Dusan Slobodnik, minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic. At the same time, he is in charge of the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport of the Slovak Republic.

"(Viliam Sobona), minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic.

"Jozef Tuchyna, minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic.

"(Katarina Tothova), minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic.

"Roman Hofbauer, minister of the Government of the Slovak Republic, in charge of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Slovak Republic. At the same time he is in charge of the Ministry of Construction and Building Industry of the Slovak Republic."

The newly appointed ministers are sworn in by Ivan Gasparovic, chairman of the Slovak national Council, who congratulates the new ministers. He urges the new ministers "to do everything for the benefit of the Slovak nation, to do everything to ensure very good relations with our neighbors, to do everything to always live in happiness. I wish you all the best in this work and I wish you success."

At 1045 GMT, Prime Minister Meciar takes the floor and gives the following speech:

"Esteemed Mr. chairman, esteemed Slovak National Council Presidium: This government and the Slovak National Council has been born of the free election, by free citizens, of the Slovak government. Thus our joint pledge, and the government's pledge is to strengthen the citizens' trust in the state, to strengthen citizens' assurances that decisions will be made in harmony with the law, according to laws, and on principles of democracy. We consider it necessary to achieve a renewal of the civil character of our society in all its forms.

"At the same time, permit me to express confidence that the Slovak National Council Presidium will support us in this effort, that together, in the framework of the constitution of the Slovak Republic, we will arrange mutual relations between the executive power and the legislative power in order that they are here for the benefit of citizens of the Slovak Republic, for the benefit of Slovaks, Hungarians, Ukrainians, Poles, and Germans who live on our territory, for all of them to have a feeling of equality, freedom, and civic coexistence.

"We all have hard work ahead of us. On our own, in isolation, we can do nothing. Together we can do everything. When they are born and begin their work governments tend to give themselves various names: Let me give only one name to this government: It is a government of the Slovak Republic, a government of free citizens of this republic. Thank you."

Meciar's speech, which ends at 1050 GMT, is greeted with applause. At this time the live relay ends.

Briefs Press on Primary Tasks

LD2406173392 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Following Jan Carnogursky's departure from the session of the Slovak National Council Presidium, Vladimir Meciar arrived at the session. He was sworn in as prime minister of the Slovak Republic [passage omitted]

At 1130, journalists met him at a short news conference; Jarmila Tosecka was there on behalf of Radiojournal.

[Begin recording] [Tosecka] Mr. Prime Minister, more than a year ago, when you were recalled from the post of prime minister of the Slovak republic, you said: Meciar will return. This has now happened. Is today and namely these moments after you have been appointed kind of satisfying for you.

[Meciar] The measure of satisfaction is such that time has healed everything, everything was good for something. April 1991 was marked by the fact that we had courage and a program of how to use it. We had a great support from the population but we had no political structures created which would provide a permanent channel linking government representatives with the population. We have them now, they are democratic and strong, and enjoy the support and respect of the population. Thus we have not lost that period in dead silence but in intensive work on this. Thus, the situation in the government is different today. [passage omitted]

[Tosecka] Tell me, what will the first step of your government be?

[Meciar] First, it will be my duty to usher several ministers into their posts; others will be ushered in tomorrow morning—I mean those who will tomorrow attend a session of the Federal Assembly. Then the government will have to deal with the need to change the structure of central management. Thus one of the first measures that it will deal with will be appointments of all deputies in the government. I assume that they will shortly not exist [as heard]. Then the government will have to deal with moral responsibility toward citizens with regard to salaries for government members, whereby it has to say if it will accept the high salaries, which we did not want and criticized ourselves. There are two ways out: Either to adopt a principle that if the present income is preserved then everyone, under supervision, will be making contributions to other needs, to social needs, or that incomes have to come down. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Says Roots of Crisis 'Very Deep'

LD2406174192 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Slovak 1500 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar announced today, after the appointment of the new Slovak Government, that the roots of the crisis are very deep. During his meeting with journalits he designated one of the main principles as the need to tell the people the truth about the state of the Republic and about the ways out of the current situation. Asked by CSTK when the people of the Slovak Republic are going to be acquainted with the ways out, the prime minister said that by 6 July he must submit a government policy statement to the Slovak National Council. He will need more time for the report on the state of the Republic because it will demand comprehensive analytical material, which so far represents 1,400 pages in the documents of the Movement for Democratic Slovakia. He added that the so-called White Book, namely a report about the state of the Republic, will be submitted in six to eight weeks' time.

In this connection, he rejected the words of former Slovak Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky, who said that he is leaving the new government with arrears totalling 270 million crowns. The former government, as Vladimir Meciar said, has left larger arrears.

Interviewed on New Government

LD2406222992 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1715 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Interview with Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar by Radiojournal correspondents Sona Jesenska and Ludmila Bulakova on 24 June at Bratislava Castle; correspondents not individually identifiable during interview—recorded]

[Excerpts] Vladimir Meciar has been again in the office of Slovak prime minister for almost 10 hours. Shortly after the gala appointment of new ministers at Bratislava Castle he gave an interview for Radiojournal. [passage omitted]

[Meciar] With regard to yesterday's session in the Slovak Parliament, it was as democratic as possible. What our deputies and our Movement proposed to change was not motivated by their membership in the Christian Democratic Movement. It was simply necessary to cut through the chain of connection between Mr. Javorsky and other security elements, and between Minister Pittner and people placed in the apparatus of the Ministry [not further specified] whom we know very well. The whole chain would be otherwise renewed and would become legitimate through the Defense Security Council.

Why were we against the presence of Mr. Carnogursky in the Foreign Committee? He explained himself to the effect that through this committee he wanted to make his position legitimate in international contacts. In this way he would have escaped the proper control of the Slovak Parliament over these activities. The agreement was about the number of positions and not about names; names were changed democratically, so emotions were not necessary. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Jan Carnogursky said in an interview for RUDE PRAVO last week that after the break up of

Public Against Violence you were leading Slovakia to isolation. He thinks that with regard to your current methods and aim, you are doing it again. Milan Ftacnik, deputy for the Party of Democratic Left, asked in an interview for LIDOVE NOVINY where the Movement for Democratic Slovakia could lead Slovakia. As prime minister and chairman of the Movement for Democratic Slovakia, what are you going to do in this direction?

[Meciar] When I used to be Slovak prime minister, the effort to emancipate Slovakia in international relations could be clearly seen. Some results were achieved by our international trips. When we departed this was interrupted. My predecessor used to go abroad a lot but he promoted only himself and not Slovakia. This has to change. What do we want to do? Above all, to halt the decline in production, to halt the decline in social securities, to internally stabilize Slovakia, to solve the issue of its relations with the Czech Republic in order to bring it out of international isolation, and so that it becomes equal not only within the state but also with other states abroad. With regard to prosperity, the Government can stimulate but we all have to work; ministers and workers equally. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] In this connection, I want to ask about yesterday's statement by Mrs. Borzova, deputy chairwoman of the Party of Democratic Left, who said that in the political talks with your Movement you did not convince her that you had a conceptual economic and foreign program. She also doubted whether you had a sufficient number of experts for foreign service.

[Meciar] Mrs. Borzova never took part in any of our talks. I do not know her and cannot comment on her words. The economic program of the Movement For Democratic Slovakia [MFDS] and of the Party of Democratic left has not been mutually discussed yet; this is yet to come, including the possibility of the participation of experts, regardless of their party membership. As far as I know, whatever is prominent in the sphere of economic theory in Slovakia is connected with the MFDS.

With regard to the readiness for foreign services in Slovakia, this readiness is there. There is a club training people for work abroad. We expect that we will shortly be able to start the way toward parity in diplomatic services in key countries. Many people are ready and many should go. I do not see any way out while there is suspicion on the part of some. All parties should make their offers so we can choose the best. Party membership ought to be secondary; the primary task should be the interest of the Slovak Republic.

[Correspondent] Does this mean that the MFDS election program will not be also the program of this government? Will it be corrected?

[Meciar] Yes it will be, and it will be corrected solely by life, which is the only way to say what can and what cannot be implemented. We remain faithful to the program we put forward. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] When will the next meeting be held with the Civic Democratic Party?

[Meciar] A date has not been set because they have problems with regard to putting together a functional Czech parliament and a Czech Government with their coalition partners. Mr Klaus' situation is worse. We won sufficient support without a coalition. He must enter a coalition, and for even a small amount of support his partners are asking for a relatively large amount of participation in the federal and national government, and also in the Federal Parliament, including posts in the Czech Parliament Presidium. His position is more complicated than ours.

[Correspondent] Prime Minister, do you think that a new Federal Government will be set up by the next session of the federal parliament—that is by Thursday or Friday?

[Meciar] I am certain it will not be. There are some problems. A Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe is prepared and the president is to attend. He is likely to want Mr. Dienstbier with him. This could be one problem. Another problem is the fact that there is pressure on forming a new government by the time the president's term in office—that is by 5 July [as heard]—is over. On our part, our condition for the formation of the government and our agreement on the participation of our members is the fulfilment of some partial matters, which has not been done yet. Therefore, it is not so clear when it will be done.

[Correspondent] Realistically, how long will it take?

[Meciar] Two weeks.

[Correspondent] You mean, two weeks from today?

[Meciar] Yes. It could be earlier, but there are still matters to be fulfilled, which we spoke about at our tete-a-tete meeting. They have still not been implemented. Only when we are sure that what has been promised will be fulfilled will we join the government.

[Correspondent] In conclusion, your personal wish for these coming years.

[Meciar] To restore the feeling of confidence in the state and the people. To restore in them the certainty that the bodies that have resulted from these elections are theirs. To restore the state mechanism and halt the decline. To settle in a just, democratic, humane, and mainly peaceful way the relations with the Czech Republic, and to enter into relations with other nations and states in Europe as equals.

[Correspondent] How realistic is your wish?

[Meciar] It is in our hands, and with the help of citizens it is guaranteed.

[Correspondent] So you do not see the world only in rosy colors as your critics often say?

[Meciar] I promised at all election assemblies, whether there were tens or hundreds of people present, sweat [word indistinct]. To be aware that it must first be worse before it is better, and that we offer hard work and will demand hard work from everybody.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

Klaus Says No MFDS Objections to Nominations

LD2406191992 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Czech 1200 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] According to Vaclav Klaus, chairman of the Civic Democratic Party [CDP], the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia [MFDS] today noted the five candidates nominated by the CDP Executive Council for the Federal Government, and that the MFDS has no major objections concerning them. Vaclav Klaus told journalists today that he discussed this information over the phone this morning with MFDS chairman Vladimir Meciar.

Vaclav Klaus confirmed that the names of those nominated for the Federal Government by the CDP published in the press are correct. They are Prime Minister Jan Strasky, Deputy Chairmen Miroslav Macek and Antonin Baudys, who is from the Christian and Democratic Union-Czechoslovak People's Party, Minister of Interior Peter Cermak, and Minister of Finance Jan Klak.

Vaclav Klaus said that the Slovak Government is not yet ready to officially announce its five candidates for the Federal Government. In his opinion, it is therefore not yet possible for the representatives of the CDP and the MFDS to meet with President of the Republic Vaclav Havel and announce to him the end of talks on the formation of the Federal Government.

According to Vaclav Klaus, each of the deputy chairmen of the Federal Government should be put in charge of some of the liquidated federal ministries. The Czech Government is, in words of the CDP leader, formed in fact. It is still necessary to clarify two or three posts. Most of the information published by the media so far is, according to him, all right.

Meciar Comments on Nominations

LD2406145192 Prague Stanice Praha Radio Network in Czech 1330 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] An independent Slovak state is not a Movement For Democratic Slovakia [MFDS] program aim, Vladimir Meciar said today noting the fact that talks on an independent Slovakia are being forced on the MFDS by the Czech side by the yes-or-no [to federation] concept. The fact that it is being discussed is not because we want to but because we have to, the head of the MFDS said.

The nomination of Jan Strasky for the post of federal premier, was called by Vladimir Meciar a premature leak of information from the Civic Democratic Party office. He said that the appointment to the federal premier post depends on the appointment of the supreme court chairman, federal assembly chairman and president—in these four posts parity has to be preserved, or MFDS will block it.

New Slovak Deputy Premier: Referendum 'Inevitable'

LD2406195192 Prague CSTK in English 1836 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Bratislava June 24 (CSTK)—Milan Knazko, Slovakia's new deputy premier in charge of the Ministry for International Relations, today said a referendum on Slovakia's state setup is inevitable.

Knazko told reporters after the appointment of the new Slovak Government that a decision on a referendum "should be made by the end of this year, or in the first quarter of next year".

He said the process of the Slovak nation's emancipation, led by the HZDS [Movement for a Democratic Slovakia], will result "neither in dual law nor in unconstitutionality within the framework of the federation". He said the HZDS supports transforming the Czechoslovak Federation into a confederative union, which would preserve all joint economic and social activities between the two republics and those ties in the areas of human rights and foreign policy which are beneficial to both.

He added that the HZDS is not of the opinion that "first of all the federation must be broken up and divided, and only then can we think of what links us together".

The Slovak side today knows what links and what divides the two republics within the federation, he said. "This should be embodied in an agreement so as to make possible a continuous transition from the present centralistic structure to a looser union in which common interests would be preserved".

He said economic reform in Slovakia will continue to aim for a social market economy, "but it cannot continue in a way that would force Slovakia to shoulder the negative impact of unified economic reforms".

Speaking about the Hungarian minority in Slovakia, Knazko said "representatives of individual political parties speak only about their demands, but not on behalf of the Hungarian minority as a whole".

According to Knazko, international law does not recognize autonomy for the national minorities. "It recognizes only individual rights, human rights and rights for national minorities guaranteed under international conventions", Knazko said.

The 600,000-strong Hungarian minority lives mostly along the southern border of Slovakia (population 5.3 million).

Defense Minister on Implications of Break-Up

LD2406125492 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Czech 1100 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] A briefing by the Federal Defense Ministry was held in Prague this morning. Lubos Dobrovsky, the outgoing minister, also attended the briefing. Lubomir Zumar brings us hot news now:

At the beginning of the briefing, Lubos Dobrovsky spoke briefly about the results of the West European Union talks in Bonn and the Budapest conference on the security situation. He noted that the instability of Czechoslovakia, because of the state structure issue, without doubt makes it more difficult for us to integrate into the West European Union.

Concerning his talks with Hungarian Defense Minister Lajos Fur, he said the possible division of the state will not mean any deterioration of relations between Hungary and Slovakia, and that the borders set by international treaties are valid and unchangeable.

The division of the state will lead at the same time to the division of the army, the defense minister said, because of the two states' different views on the state structure, and economic and foreign policy. He expressed confidence that the government of the future Czech state will not let die the idea of integration into military structure of the North Atlantic Pact as a necessary prerequisite for the creation of the security zone.

He said the claims by representatives of the Association of Slovak Soldiers that after the division, the Slovak state will spend less on defense are nothing but shouts of people who do not know what they are talking about.

Prime Minister Warns of Tensions in East Europe

LD2406213892 Budapest MTI in English 1928 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Nuremberg, June 24 (MTI)—Participating in a discussion at the Nuremberg Chamber of Industry and Trade on Wednesday [24 June], Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall warned against further tensions in Eastern Europe.

"Destabilization implies the greatest danger in the Central and Eastern European region," the prime minister said. "It is also in the interest of the industrialized Western world that this not come about. The region's political, military, economic and social destabilization would so seriously affect the West that they would long for the return of the Iron Curtain."

As was reported, the prime minister held a lecture entitled "Hungary's Role in a Free Europe" in the Nuremberg Chamber of Industry and Trade during the day.

Antall stressed that Hungary does not want to alter its borders, but takes a firm stand on the rights of Hungarians living beyond the borders. According to the prime minister, the Hungarians in Vojvodina are currently in the most endangered situation.

"A physical tension appears on the area of Vojvodina, which is aggravated by the problem of the military draft," Antall said, probably in reference to reports that ethnic Hungarians had been drafted into the Yugoslav Army in far greater numbers, proportionately, than the inhabitants.

"Hungary does not wish to interfere in the affairs of neighbouring countries," the prime minister said. "This applies also to the debate between the Czechs and the Slovaks: We shall create our policy on the basis of their decision."

UN Embargo of Yugoslavia Causes Economic Losses

LD2406115492 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1000 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] The Hungarian Government has asked the members of the UN Security Council for a consultation because Hungary is incurring economic losses due to the sanctions imposed on little Yugoslavia, our New York correspondent Gyorgy Bolgar reports.

[Begin Bolgar recording] The Hungarian UN representative's letter to this effect, alluding to Paragraph 50 of the Charter, was handed to the Belgian chairman of the council, and he, of course, did not promise, could not promise, anything, if for no other reason than simply because the world organization does not have the financial resources to alleviate losses of this kind. Even so, raising Hungary's problems at international forums is not a waste of time, because it makes it abundantly clear that Hungary is observing the sanctions even at the cost of sacrifices. [end recording]

At the end of the line is Foreign Ministry spokesman Janos Hermann, whom we asked whether Ambassador Andre Erdos' letter concretely states how much damage the economic embargo against little Yugoslavia is causing Hungary.

[Begin recording] [Hermann] No, it doesn't. And by the nature of things, it cannot since, at the present moment, Hungary is among the countries applying these sanctions and we cannot know when the Security Council will decide to suspend the sanctions. Thus, we cannot know how long we will be applying the sanctions. A preliminary gathering of information is underway into the extent of the cost to Hungary of applying the sanctions. This is being done by the Ministry of International Economic Relations. So, all I can say is that at the moment, we only have fairly preliminary data at our disposal.

[Announcer] Two weeks ago Ivan Baba [deputy state secretary for foreign affairs] told a Hungarian radio program that it could be a matter of some $50-100 million.

[Hermann] As an estimate, I think this figure is valid. But I would like to stress once again that this can only be a preliminary figure; the real losses will depend to a large extent on how long the sanctions remain in force and, naturally, on what kind of things we include on this list because there are concrete losses, there are revenue losses, and there are also indirect disadvantages that affect Hungary as a result of the application of the sanctions. [end recording]

Ministry Denies Sending Helicopters to Dniester

AU2506143092 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1300 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] The Ministry of National Defense has faxed us the following text:

Regarding the ITAR-TASS report according to which six Mi-24 military helicopters coming from Romania landed during the night of 25 June in Causeni in the Republic of Moldova, the Press Bureau of the Romanian Army has been authorized to make the following statements:

The Romanian Army does not possess Mi-24 helicopters. No Romanian helicopter has carried out flights outside Romania's airspace. The news reported by ITAR-TASS is a tendentious false report that wants to justify the involvement of the 14th Army—which is under Russian jurisdiction—in the conflict on the left bank of the Dniester River on the side of the separatists in the Dniester area.

Students Demand Political Solution in Dniester

AU2406163092 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1534 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 24/6/1992—"Put an end to this crucifixion," "Down the mask, Yeltsin," "What about Europe" are some of the slogans of the pickets the Romanian and Bessarabian students of Bucharest University continue to form in front of the Embassy of the Russian Federation, to protest against the diversion of this country aimed at the independent state of Moldova. The students ask that the fire cease immediately, the military of the 14th Army based in Transdniestria go to barracks and a political solution be found to the conflict in this area.

As the organisers of the pickets have specified, their demonstration will be put an end to only when political decision- makers will get the message.

Ministry Spokesman Comments on Russian Treaty

AU2406201392 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1903 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 24/6/1992—The Romanian-Russian ties are normal, there is nothing spectacular to announce in this respect, the presence of units of the 14th Army in the Republic of Moldova is destabilising, the spokesman for the Romanian Foreign Ministry, Traian Chebeleu, told a June 24 press conference.

The negotiation of the bilateral Romanian-Russian treaty is in an advanced stage and the present developments do not influence the process, as it is known that the document will have provisions of a general character, added Mr. Chebeleu.

Brussels venued June 18-19 a second round of talks on the conclusion of an agreement of Romania's association to the European communities, announced the Romanian Foreign Ministry spokesman.

The next round was scheduled for June 16-17. The rounds to follow will be centered first of all on commercial aspects and technicalities and the elaboration of protocols and appendices to the agreement.

Traian Chebeleu also said that the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a white paper, Wednesday, June 24, synthesizing the main foreign policy actions and initiatives made by Romania over January 1991-May 1992. The said ministry put out a similar document last year.

The minister of foreign affairs of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan will pay a visit to Romania over June 1-4, upon an invitation of the Romanian foreign minister, Adrian Nastase, the foreign ministry spokesman announced at a Wednesday, June 24, briefing.

The talks between the two foreign ministers will be mostly centered on economic cooperation, considering that the economies of the two countries offer good prospects in this respect.

Officials on Moldova, 'Street Children', Credits

AU2406183092 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1741 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 24/6/1992—The Romanian foreign minister, Adrian Nastase, and the minister of national defence, Nicolae Spiroiu, informed the government, at its meeting on June 24, on latest developments in the Republic of Moldova. Hopes were expressed again that a political solution would be found, which is equally expected from the four-party meeting to be held in Istanbul.

Prime Minister Theodor Stolojan mentioned that ministries had to be headed firmly in the period preceding elections, to avoid malfunctions and discontinuities.

As for the polls themselves, the schedule of the actions stipulated by the law has been issued, which is going to be discussed again together with the whole set of activities falling to the executive and each ministry involved. The programme will be made public after the promulgation of the laws concerned.

Appreciating that the actions made so far have had good results, and therefore, they have to go on, a decision was taken that an in-depth evaluation of the social issue represented by "street children" should be made through the joint effort of all governmental bodies in charge.

A special interest was given to an initiative to restructure and reorganise the activity of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, which its head, George Danielescu, put forth before his colleagues. The idea was stressed that the

measure was called by objective reasons imposed by economic realities specific to this period of transition.

In its June 24 sitting the government also took the decision to grant credits with prime rates for exports and production destined to be exported. That is a mechanism intended at financially stimulating exports by using a deposit of the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Press Condemns Western Attitude Toward Dniester

AU2406120692 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1047 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 24/6/1992—"Russia expects Bucharest to make a fatal mistake" writes well-known publicist Ion Cristoiu in the editorial of the second issue of new Bucharest daily EVENIMENTUL ZILEI (THE DAY'S EVENT).

In his opinion, Moscow "needs the beach head represented by the Dniester region," because thus "it would come near Europe again after the dissolution of the Soviet empire." It prefers "for the time being (...) less expensive means" than war, writes the author, who describes them as "the tactics of the club and of the carrot:" "The threats of armed intervention are followed by negotiations. The negotiations are suddenly interrupted by armed harassments."

This tactic is supposed to aim at "Romania's involvement in war," in order to demonstrate that "the conflict is not between the Dniester Republic and the Republic of Moldova, but [rather] between the poor province across the Dniester and an aggressive country: Romania."

Russia intends to federalize Moldova, states the author, who considers that "it is in no hurry: On the scale of its immense territory, time does not matter."

Writer and publicist Ion Cristoiu has been leading—along with the new daily—the EXPRES MAGAZIN, an independent weekly in whose every issue he publishes commentaries that have made him one of the most interesting analysts of the political life.

Under the headline "The Conspiracy of Silence," the assistant editor-in-chief of daily ADEVARUL, Dumitru Tinu, writes inter alia in the editorial of the June 24 issue: "Returned in triumph from Washington, Russian President Boris Yeltsin made two movements characteristic for the politics of great powers: After the demonstration of strength of the 14th Army's armoured cars which protected the back of the separatists' terrorist detachments, he ordered the ceasefire. Of course, a temporary one. The warning was clear: Russia is part of the conflict and it will intervene. We have enough forces to do it and Snegur should know it, Yeltsin stated arrogantly. Of course President Snegur knows it. And everybody knows it. What is also known is the fact that the geopolitical interests of the great powers have priority—now like in the past—over the international law principles. Because it is quite clear: The defiance of the monster is made on the background of a conspiracy of Western countries' silence. Is it not a paradox that the more Moscow's involvement in the artificial conflict on the banks of the Dniester becomes obvious, the more numerous become the philantrophic gestures expressed in billions of dollars in the form of credits or humanitarian aid granted to the regime that inherited the same imperialist mentalities that led mankind to the verge of war? It is quite understandable that, for instance, the U.S. administration was very impressed by Yeltsin's acceptance to reduce by 66 percent the strategical nuclear arsenals. Should this mean that such an understanding between the two powers had been made without taking into consideration other states' interests?

Over one and a half month, the U.S. have performed a more than significant semi-pirouette. It is true that the latest statement of the White House is completed with an "urge" addressed to Moscow to initiate negotiations with the Republic of Moldova's government for a fast conclusion of an agreement, according to which the 14th Army's troops be withdrawn from the Dniester region. But no word has been said about Russia's armed aggression against an independent and sovereign state with which the U.S. has recently established diplomatic relations... What do the Western countries say about it during the many international meetings held these days? They say nothing. Complete silence. Non-interference in internal affairs? Observance of national sovereignty and independence? Human rights?...

Let us make no illusions... Now, as before world war two, we are practically alone. And any wrong step could cost us more than we could imagine. Neither Snegur nor we can tell Yeltsin that we have enough forces to counteract. Our force is represented not by tanks but by the intelligence with which we shall promote and defend our justice."

Iliescu Gives Interview on Domestic Changes

AU2506081192 Bucharest LIBERTATEA in Romanian 9-10 Jun 92 pp 1, 2

[Part one of interview with President Ion Iliescu by Emil Jurca; place and date not given: "Romania Is, in Spite of Convulsions, a Certain Oasis of Stability"]

[Text] [Jurca] Mr. President, you have publicly announced your decision to run in the next presidential elections. What made you reenter the race for the Cotroceni presidential palace?

[Iliescu] One cannot yet talk about an official announcement of my candidature, but rather about a reflection, since many opinions were aired in this respect. Some people advised me not to run in the elections, others requested me not to participate, invoking all kinds of internal and international implications, while others asked me to take part in this electoral race. I do not know what interests may hide behind the request to refrain from participating in the elections, but I consider them

undemocratic, since the electorate should have its say in this respect. Therefore, what I said does not amount to an official decision, but rather an option: I might participate in the elections just because I am asked not to. These were my words.

[Jurca] Right now, you are an independent political figure. What political and social forces do you and might you count on for the presidential ballot, assuming that you take the decision to run in the presidential elections?

[Iliescu] This is one reason why I am waiting before I announce my candidature. Aside from the need to finalize the legislative acts on the framework and date of the elections, the process of clarification taking place within the various political forces will also influence my choice. I must take into consideration several possible alternatives: Either I accept the endorsement of one or several political groupings or I run as an independent, supported by several parties. I have yet to make up my mind on that. Until now, I have had three or four offers from certain political groupings: the Democratic National Salvation Front [FDSN], the Democratic Socialist Party, the Social Democratic Unity Party, and other groupings that have expressed a similar desire in one form or another. Therefore, I cannot yet figure out the formula of my candidature.

[Jurca] More than two years have passed since you won the presidential elections with an overwhelming majority. What do you think has, and what has not changed in Romania in the meantime?

[Iliescu] I believe these two years were years of radical and irreversible changes. First of all, the overall atmosphere is different, with regard to ensuring civic rights and freedoms and enabling each Romanian to breathe freely and to act and express himself. Second, the overall political climate has changed. Even the tensions experienced in these two years, the whole political life and this explosive emergence of political groupings and various forms of organization are an expression of the changes produced in Romanian society and of the longing for diversification and for the expression of this diversification. Third, there are changes in building the foundation of a state based on the rule of the law. After the elections of two years ago, the Parliament has carried out abundant activity, particularly in working out the new Constitution, which I consider to be a reference document that is appropriately appreciated at the international level. Of course, it is difficult to change everything in two years; nevertheless, I maintain that we have laid the foundation for democratic legislation and for the legislative and institutional standards of a state based on the rule of law. We are at the stage of closing this electoral cycle which, on the basis of the new Constitution, has first elected the democratic institutions at the level of localities and counties, and then will conclude this cycle with the general parliamentary and presidential elections. Therefore, I believe that the mandate entrusted two years ago to the Parliament and president was largely fulfilled as far as laying the legislative foundation of the state of law is concerned. I maintain that profound changes have occurred in economic and social life. However, this is the most delicate field, which is the first to be confronted with phenomena of crisis similar to those experienced by the Romanian economy at the end of 1989, which actually triggered off the social explosion of December. To this, one should add the crisis phenomena specific to the transition period, with which all Eastern European countries are being confronted, and the international circumstances, such as the collapse of CEMA and of all economies with which we had very broad relations, primarily the Soviet Union, the Gulf crisis, the world economic situation, and the overall worldwide economic recession. All these elements profoundly affect economic activity, primarily productive activity; the current state budget revenues make it hard to implement the social protection targets, something which is reflected in the people's lives.

However, I maintain that important progress was made in promoting the idea of economic reform and transition from a supercentralized economy to a market economy. Important steps were taken to promote economic decentralization and to increase the autonomy of enterprises; on the basis of the new legislation, autonomous commercial companies were set up; and the privatization process was launched—with more than 200,000 private enterprises with internal capital and several thousand units with foreign capital currently in existence—and the dynamic development of this process is in full swing. Likewise, the financial and banking system have registered new institutional changes capable of creating the specific levers of a market economy. However, as I have said, the process is just beginning; from the international experience we know that this process cannot unfold very rapidly, therefore, the term "shock therapy" is relative, since it is not enough to want to rapidly make certain changes in the economy, you must also be able to implement them. As a rule, the economy is characterized by widespread inertia, which one should take into one's calculations. If we just take the privatization aspect, this is a more general process, that applies not only to the East European countries. In the seventies, similar privatization measures were taken by many countries—such as England, France, Italy, and many others—which, in the forties and fifties, promoted the nationalization of certain branches. Let us take just England, which nationalized only certain economic sectors, not the entire economy, since it is a country with a classic market economy. Well, the reprivatization process in certain infrastructure sectors and extracting industries took 10 years. Since there was a very favorable framework for the unfolding of that process, it was implemented very carefully, so as to avoid rifts and interruptions that would disrupt the economic life. Therefore, we must realistically approach the question of economic changes on the basis of concrete calculations, analyses, and studies; we must establish and gradually introduce the required measures and changes and must create the necessary institutional and methodological framework for the promotion of the transition. This seems to me a

major and longer-term task for the next government and the future parliamentary legislation, namely to work out a national strategy of transition toward a market economy, which should further reduce the social cost of this process. This must also be the theme of a basic political dialogue between the political forces that will assume responsibilities in future governments, where competitive and knowledgeable people should compete in working out a common action platform and a national strategy.

[Jurca] Mr. President, do you have an example from a field where nothing has changed?

[Iliescu] Where nothing has changed? I cannot believe that. What I mean is that I do not believe that there is a sphere of our social life where no changes have occurred. However, it seems to me that the greatest inertia is in the people's mentality. This is the sphere where the least progress has been made: Even those who loudly proclaim their endorsement for the change often prove to have outdated mentalities. They speak out for democracy, while they practice totally undemocratic methods and behaviors. You see, this is a process that requires a much more profound change in the people's awareness and behavior.

[Jurca] How do you assess Romania's current international situation? I mean, what is Romania's image and place in the world right now and what dangers are lurking around the corner?

[Iliescu] I believe that Romania's image is improving, after a period of worsening due to the behavior of certain factors from within and outside, particularly politicians, who counted strongly on a number of difficulties and tough moments we had to go through and on the social convulsions and violence experienced in the last two years, to project a totally distorted image of our country. In any event, an unfavorable image. I believe that things are viewed much more realistically now by political forces, both at a European level, that is at the level of European institutions, and more generally. Even the U.S. Administration has had a change of heart, which it directly expressed during Mr. Eagleburger's [U.S. undersecretary of state Lawrence Eagleburger] visit to Bucharest. Regarding our situation, a favorable element that has contributed to this positive development is the fact that, despite the difficulties and upheavals we have experienced, Romania, more than other countries in Eastern Europe, is today a certain oasis of tranquility and stability in this region. People are assessing positively the recent evolution of our country's political life.

This evolution has taken place against a background of disruption in our region, with the inherent dangers you referred to, linked with the dismemberment of an empire, the Soviet empire, which has caused great upheavals in the political field and in the sphere of national and social relations, including the serious collapse of its economy and economic life; on the other hand, you also have the dismemberment of the Yugoslav state. Therefore, we are in the middle of a hot area. Hence our interest—and not ours alone, but also of other forces and countries interested in maintaining the continent's balance and stability—is playing a positive role in the developments in this part of the continent and the European continent in general. Our relations with our neighbors are generally good, even though some tense moments may arise with one or the other. In general, they represent a positive element and are appreciated as such.

Stolojan's Chances as Presidential Candidate Viewed

AU2406201092 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1850 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 24/6/1992—The only one that could have chances in a competition with Mr. Iliescu for Romania's presidency is Theodor Stolojan, opines the daily "VIITORUL ROMANESC." Such a contest would make many turn out on the election day, which would give weight to voting and influence the distribution of seats in the future parliament.

"A favourite of part of the press," as appreciates "VIITORUL ROMANESC," Mr. Stolojan does not want to announce his candidature. The said daily mentions among his reasons "a kind of respect, normal in fact, for President Ion Iliescu," his being afraid that his candidature might affect his duties as regards important economic issues, the difficulties to organise of the electoral campaign, the fact that his running for president would imply certain conditions for getting the support of political parties.

"VIITORUL ROMANESC" says that Mr. Stolojan is not indifferent to what parties would back him and to what extent this will influence the structure of the future parliament, especially as far as the targets of the respective parties are concerned, with which Mr. Stolojan should agree to a certain extent. Mr. Stolojan also remembers that during the contacts for his designation as prime minister he promised that he would withdraw from the political life at the end of the term of his office. And it seems he wants to keep his promise, although things have changed a lot ever since.

UDMR President on Minority, Electoral Issues

AU2406115992 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0747 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 24/6/1992—The danger of federalizing Romania is but a threat, an exaggeration and a speculation used for political propaganda purposes especially by anti-Hungarians, Geza Domokos, president of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR), states in an interview with daily COTIDIANUL. "Although the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania is facing a process of clarification," Mr. Geza Domokos specifies, "our loyalty towards the Romanian state cannot be doubted; the recognition of

the national interests, of Romania's territorial integrity are principles stipulated in our programme."

The UDMR leader appreciates that "changes towards a good direction" have taken place after 1989 in the problem of the Hungarian minority but that "those who could have influenced in good the settlement of the problem and correctly informed the society, elaborated projects and opened a sincere dialogue—and who have not done so yet—are mainly the governors."

In Mr. Geza Domokos's opinion, the bloodful events in Tirgu Mures in March 1990, which resulted in dead and wounded both among the Romanians and among the Hungarians, "were let to happen just to justify the immediate organization of the Romanian Intelligence Service", because "the old Securitate people had to receive their salaries only until April 1 and they were in a difficult situation". Reminding that he himself had warned in vain the authorities about the possibility of such events, Mr. Geza Domokos concludes that "personal interests were at stake, interests of those in power and of the people with old ideas," that "the fight is between those wishing a restoration of the old system, a kind of Ceausescu-type regime without Ceausescu, and those really wishing democracy."

The UDMR leader considers as unjustified the fear that the granting of normal rights—such as education, higher education included, in the mother tongue—would entail other claims of the Hungarian minority in Transylvania concerning the autonomy or even territorial split.

As far as the relations between Romania and Hungary are concerned, Mr. Geza Domokos considers that the two countries "have complementary economies from many points of view, many common traditions and evident chances of collaboration," a thing that could be seen from the fact that, despite some political dissensions, significant steps have been made on the path of economic and cultural collaboration. The UDMR leader highly appreciates the principled stand of the Christian Democratic National Peasant Party on the Hungarian minority's problems and sees in Mr. Corneliu Coposu, president of that party and of the opposition alliance Democratic Convention, "a politician and intellectual whom one can trust." But in connection with Radu Campeanu, president of the National Liberal Party, and with his withdrawal from the Democratic Convention as well as with his attitude towards the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania, Mr. Geza Domokos qualified it as "a surprise and a disappointment".

Mr. Geza Domokos reasserted that the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania would not propose a candidate to the presidency but it would back the common candidate proposed by the Democratic Convention.

Serbian Forces in Sarajevo Promise Cooperation

LD2506103292 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Serbian terrorists attacking Sarajevo have informed General Lewis MacKenzie, the UN Protection Forces commander in that town, that they have agreed to restart the process to open Sarajevo airport and that they will begin regrouping their artillery weapons in that area. Gen. MacKenzie told journalists in Sarajevo that this unilateral decision was accompanied by the obligation that the Serbian forces will no longer attack nonmilitary facilities. If this promise also ends in failure, it will be a serious blow to the trustworthiness of the Serbian side, Gen. MacKenzie said.

Special Police Unit Formed in Sarajevo 24 Jun

LD2506132292 Belgrade SRNA in Serbo-Croatian 1017 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Excerpt] A unit of Croatian special police of Herceg-Bosnia [Croatian self-proclaimed canton in Bosnia] was formed yesterday in Sarajevo. SRNA's journalist learned from one of its members that the unit was formed by Dragan Vikic [Croat commander of Bosnian special police unit loyal to Muslim President Izetbegovic]. According to this source, Vikic now realizes that Croatian interests in Bosnia-Hercegovina are common and undivisible, and that they should not be tied, even for a short period, to long-term interests of Muslim extremists headed by Alija Izetbegovic. [passage omitted]

Jajce Shelled, Besieged by Serbian Forces

LD2406130692 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] More than 50,000 people of Jajce [northwest Bosnia] and a large number of refugees who fled the chetniks' knives are under siege. Zoltan Kabok reports for Croatian radio:

The situation in Jajce is alarming. Almost all shops are closed; there is no food or medicine. There are many snipers in the town, and people have been advised not to venture outside. Despite the complex nature of the situation and thanks to good organization, Croatian Defense Council units have been purging the town of criminals who have been firing at innocent citizens.

In the immediate vicinity of the town, criminals of the Banjaluka corps have concentrated strong forces. Croatian villages around Jajce are being destroyed daily from high-caliber projectiles. Artillery shells have been hitting many industrial and civilian targets in the town itself—the hospital, the church, and the culture club.

There are reports that the aggressors have destroyed and carried out massacres in the surrounding Croatian villages. For instance, the village of Jezero [west of Jajce] has been flattened and in Vlasinje [north of Jajce] innocent civilians have been massacred. Chetniks have given the population of Donji Koricani and Gornji Koricani an ultimatum to hand over weapons today or the villages will be destroyed. However, despite the threats and in the light of the well-organized Croatian Defense Council, Croats from this area are determined to persevere in these decisive battles for Jajce.

Serbian Democratic Party 'Officially Banned'

AU2406115392 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Hercegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 24 June 92

[Excerpt] The following is the news that we have been awaiting for a long time. As of today, the functioning of the Serbian Democratic Party [SDS] as a terrorist organization has been officially banned. [passage omitted]

Biographic Details on Serbian Army Commander

92BA1068A Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 6 Jun 92 p 19

[Article by Marjan Bauer: "Ratko Mladic"]

[Text] Juvenal wrote at the beginning of our century that through crime one can earn either the gallows or a medal. It has not yet been decided which of these two payments will be received by Lieutenant General Ratko Mladic, the commander of the Serbian army in Bosnia-Hercegovina. A third possibility is quite possible and likely—that both will befall him, not for the first time in history.

General Mladic, a Bosnian Serb from a little village near Kalinovik at the foot of Treskavica mountain, within the framework of the above-mentioned ends, is destroying Sarajevo and his native Bosnia-Hercegovina. What is this officer really like, whose entire image as a war criminal has been formed primarily by the Croatian media and partly also by the Bosnian media, which have also been extremely thinned out thanks to him? If we speak without feelings and if our aim is to come close to the truth, it must be said that Ratko Mladic is an officer of above-average competence. He graduated fifth in his class from the military academy, and particularly distinguished himself in infantry science. He was sent to the command staff academy, and he also graduated from the national defense school. The officer, who is 49 years old today, spent most of his life in Skopje, in duties ranging from platoon commander to battalion commander. When Blagoje Adzic was the division commander in Stip, he appointed Mladic commander of one of his brigades. He began to ascend abruptly when he was appointed first chief of the operational detachment of the Knin corps and then chief of staff; before he became a major general and the commander of this ill-famed unit, he was an assistant to Generals Nikolic and Vukovic. After he assumed command, Mladic's name was so closely linked with Knin and the military-terrorist operations in that region that he could be called the Knin Mladic, if he had not jeopardized that sinister adjective himself through his actions in Sarajevo.

By appointing Lieutenant General Ratko Mladic as head of the Serbian army in Bosnia-Hercegovina, the Serbian extremists in that state and their Belgrade leaders gained an aggressive, militarily very professional, and uncompromising commander. Mladic is an excellent leader, his ambition does not cloud his judgment, he thinks and makes decisions rapidly, he is very inventive in his use of units, and he does not acknowledge hopeless situations on the battlefield and in life. For example, when he conducted the Kupres operation, while seizing the gateways to Kupres he requested air support. Because of bad weather, there were no aircraft. Then he sent a message to General Kukanjac: "I am going there, and we will do without them. Report that it has been settled!" His aggressiveness is proverbial; in school he was prepared to fight even over the slightest difference of opinion, and incidents are known from Knin in which he threatened to have his subordinates shot because of slips. His willfulness is also boundless: He only carries out orders and instructions from Belgrade (the main staff or the federal defense ministry) in the event that he also agrees himself with what has been ordered, and otherwise he does not.

After coming to Bosnia-Hercegovina, the general, who does not take off his bulletproof vest (his Croatian enemies say that he wears four of them), proclaimed military administration on the territory of Serbian Bosnia-Hercegovina, and ordered that all Serbian armed forces be transferred together under his command. Since Mladic has been in Bosnia, most Serbian military operations have been carried out, as the vocabulary of the profession says, "very well and with all necessary force, regardless of the casualties among the civilian population." The battles have been very fierce and merciless, and there have been very few prisoners on both sides. Another characteristic of the Serbian units, i.e., the Cetniks, the Serbian TO [Territorial Defense], and the JA [Yugoslav Army] in Bosnia, is also the so-called Croatian model, the destruction of civilian targets, especially cities and villages, and the slaughter (frequently mass slaughter) and emigration of the Muslim and Croatian population.

This model has also been used in Sarajevo. Mladic has pushed it to completion. The Serbian forces are shelling the city from all sides, and through continuous infantry attacks, are trying to force the population to abandon the city en masse. They are trying to starve out the surrounded sections of Sarajevo, and after the fall of the enclaves, crimes following the example of Bijeljina will follow. What the Serbs' determination is like in carrying out the basic task, i.e., the occupation of Sarajevo, is indicated by the fact that they have also been shelling the UNPROFOR headquarters building, the hospital complex, and the main telephone central switchboard. Sarajevo is being overflown by aircraft at low altitude, and someone—probably the military intelligence service—has spread rumors that both Luna-2 ground-to-ground missile divisions have been directed toward Sarajevo.

Even though shifts in Serbia and a change in the most radical positions of the ruling SPS [Serbian Socialist Party] are increasingly apparent, there is no reason for the military and terrorist actions on the territory of Bosnia-Hercegovina not to be continued or even intensified, especially in the areas that the Serbian side wants to make or acquire as ethnically pure. In spite of the denials from Zagreb and partly from Belgrade, the Graz agreement between Karadzic and Boban still remains the key to the partition of Bosnia-Hercegovina. The so-called army of the Serbian people of Bosnia-Hercegovina, after the ban on entering or returning to the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia [FRY], does not have any other choice but to fight for the largest possible Serbian Bosnia-Hercegovina. Along with the Croats' historical aspiration to annex Hercegovina to Croatia, this is an additional reason to question the future fate and statehood of the Muslims.

General Ratko Mladic has been ideally placed in this scenario, or these scenarios. Militarily, he will be extremely effective in preparing for the domestic extremist Serbs and the Belgrade Serbs a rich dowry for any subsequent talks on the final settlement of the Bosnian question. His violent recklessness and aggressiveness, which undoubtedly made a fundamental contribution to his having achieved what he has, will come in handy once again later on. The Serbs will be able to point without hesitation at the real and biggest culprit behind all the evil. The name of Ratko Mladic will be "Black Peter" [reference to children's game whereby the one who draws the "Black Peter" loses]. Things have been prepared and planned in advance, and thus Major General Milan Gver, who is considered a moderate in spite of his Cetnik origin, has been sent as the general's deputy, i.e., "we tried to restrain him."

A conversation with Mladic is virtually impossible. When SLOVENSKE NOVICE succeeded in getting him to the telephone recently, he answered questions disjointedly and nervously, without any rational connection, by asserting that "It is all a lie, the Serbs are the greatest democrats, write about the massacres against the army last year in Slovenia, the Muslims flayed Serbs in Nedzarici, men dressed up as women hid in the children's convoy in Ilidza, the world does not interest me at all, the world public ought to worry about itself, anyone who has pointed a rifle at one of my soldiers has aimed at himself, someone has to pay the price, history will note how much it will be."

For the time being, however, General Mladic is not admitting to the human race that he issued the order for the attack against Croatian Kijevo and Skabrnja, where Knin militiamen and JA soldiers then massacred 41 villagers. The Belgian Lyvllan, a member of the European observer commission, said that he had never seen anything so merciless in his entire life. After that event he resigned. Mladic was the one who said that Vukovar was nothing compared to what he would order for Zadar; his words are that everyone between seven and 70 years old in the conquered cities should be slaughtered. Because we have been cut off from Sarajevo, we do not yet know what all Mladic's acts and deeds there are like.

A man who likes so much to state that the Serbs in the 11th century ate with golden spoons while the Europeans were wandering in the swamps thus, in his own way, is going down in history, which will record, not for the first time, that there is not really any reason for rational efficiency and military talent not to be associated with crime. Ratko Mladic is one of those people whose desire is to destroy as much as possible, because everything of theirs has already been destroyed at one time, and because they never had anything.

Tudjman Sets Presidential Election for 2 Aug

LD2406193392 Zagreb HTV Television in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Address by Croatian President Franjo Tudjman calling for elections to Croatian Assembly and presidency in the presidential office on 24 June—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] Croatian women and men, citizens of the Republic of Croatia, further to the constitutional obligations and authority I have in my capacity as leader of state, president of the republic, today I signed a decision to call an election to Croatia's state parliament. It reads as follows:

The decision to call an election of representatives to the Croatian State Parliament:

Article 1. On the basis of Article 98 and Article 141, Paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, as well as of Article 4 of the Law on the Election of Representatives to the Assembly of the Republic of Croatia, I call elections of representatives to the Chamber of Representatives of the Assembly of the Republic of Croatia. I have determined Sunday 2 August 1992 as the date of the election.

Article 2. This decision takes immediate effect on the day of its publication; Zagreb, the capital of Croatia,

24 June 1992.

[Signed] President of the Republic of Croatia.

In addition to my decision to call an election to Croatia's assembly, the Government of the Republic of Croatia today decided, on the basis of its legal authority, to call a simultaneous presidential election. By passing these decisions to call an election to the Croatian Assembly and a presidential election, we are implementing the provisions of the new Croatian Constitution, which was adopted by the Croatian Assembly on 22 December 1990. Given the fact that the current Croatian Assembly was elected according to the communist Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Croatia of 1974, and comprises, as an articulation of the old socialist system, three chambers—the Socio-Political Chamber, the Chamber of Municipalities, and the Chamber of Associated Labor—the new constitution of the democratic Croatia stipulates that the election to the new Croatian Assembly and presidential elections be called according to the new electoral law.

They should have been adopted at most a year after the new Croatian Constitution, that is, by the end of 1991. However, due to the war imposed on us by the Yugo-Communist Army, Serbia, and Montenegro, we could not have made new electoral laws or called elections in the envisaged period. With the victory in the defense war, the international recognition, and the admission of Croatia as an independent and sovereign state into the United Nations, we have ensured the withdrawal of the remaining occupying forces with the help of the peace-keeping forces from all Croatian areas.

Thus, conditions for elections in line with the new constitutional and legal provisions have been created. The mandate of the current assembly will last until the new assembly is constituted 20 days after the elections.

With the elections to the new Croatian Assembly and the parallel first direct elections to the post of the republican president, we are making a resolute step toward developing and strengthening the new democratic constitutional-legal system of the free, independent, sovereign, and autonomous state of Croatia. [passage omitted]

Election Procedures Outlined

LD2406214392 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] The law on the election of deputies in the Croatian Assembly envisages that 124 deputies will be elected in the Chamber of Representatives for a four-year term. Their number can be increased if the required presence of ethnic or national minorities is not achieved.

In line with provisions on the law on the election of the president of the Republic of Croatia, the president is to be elected for a five-year term by the majority votes of all who voted. If no candidate secures a majority, elections are repeated in 14 days. The two candidates who get the most votes in the first round, will have the right to stand in the second round of the elections. If the candidates get the same number of votes, the elections are repeated once more. Candidates for the president are all those put forward by one or more political parties and who are supported with at least 10,000 valid signatures or who are put forward by at least 10,000 voters.

Artillery Reportedly Bombards Serb Krajina Capital

LD2406011692 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2326 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Knin, June 23 (TANJUG)—The artillery of the Croatian Armed Forces on Tuesday [23 June] evening bombarded Knin, the capital of the Republic of Serb Krajina [RSK], TANJUG reports.

Several artillery shells fell near the Knin St. Sava hospital, the reporter said.

The Republic of Serb Krajina was formed late last year within the administrative borders of Croatia in territories where Serbs are a majority population. Krajina is covered by the United Nations (U.N.) peace plan and the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) is soon to take overt full responsibility of these territories.

After a general alert was sounded at 19:00 hrs local time (17:00 GMT), the citizens of Knin saught shelter in their cellars or in public air raid shelters.

There were fierce clashes all afternoon in the part of the Dalmatian front in the Skradin hinterland, TANJUG learns from reliable sources. The fighting could have been heard even in Knin and it lasted well into the night.

Attack Undermines Peace Plan

LD2406175392 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1624 GMT 24 Jun 92

["Pool" item]

[Text] Knin, June 24 (TANJUG)—A strong offensive of Croatian forces on the Dalmatian front, in the area of Drnis, a town on the border of the Republic of Serbian Krajina (RSK), has prevented the U.N. Protection Force in Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR) from taking over control in the sector south.

The Republic of Serbian Krajina was proclaimed last year inside the administrative borders of the former Yugoslav Republic of Croatia and has been placed under U.N. protection.

Civil affairs assistant of the UNPROFOR command in the sector south Viktor Andreyev said that the offensive was the most flagrant ceasefire violation to date.

Knin, the capital of RSK, is also a target of Croatian artillery attacks. The Knin hospital was hit on Wednesday [24 June], and the children's ward was damaged the most. Fortunately, the hospital personnel had evacuated all patients on time. Knin residents have been in shelters and basements since Tuesday afternoon.

RSK Prime Minister Zdravko Zecevic said on Wednesday that the drastic cease-fire violation on the eve of the taking over of control by UNPROFOR was planned.

Outgoing chief of E.C. monitors for Dalmatia Dieter Waltmann told newsmen on Wednesday that the developments on the Dalmatian front were overshadowed by the developments in and around Sarajevo, the capital of the war-torn former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia- Hercegovina.

Waltmann said that, despite the established contacts, the E.C. monitors had to start all over again because of what was currently happening. He said that it was necessary to establish contact and talks between Belgrade and Zagreb.

The RSK Government was in session all day on Tuesday, reviewing the military and political situation, but it has issued no statement so far.

Deputy UNPROFOR Commander, Gen. Philippe Morillon and Commander of the UNPROFOR sector south, Gen. Arap Rob are expected to meet in Knin on Wednesday afternoon with Commander of the General Staff of the RSK Armed Forces, Gen. Milan Torbica.

Serbian Talks in Cavtat Produce No Result

LD2206215192 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2109 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Herceg Novi, June 22 (TANJUG)—The third round of talks on the exchange of prisoners between the representatives of the Army of Yugoslavia (VJ) and the Croatian authorities from Dubrovnik failed to produce results.

The talks were held on Monday [22 June] in Cavtat, a town near Dubrovnik.

The army sources said no definitive accord was reached because the Croatian side again failed to supply a precise answer about the fate of 22 army members, who were among the 70 persons the army wanted in exchange. Among the 70 were also 4 pilots of the air force of the former Yugoslavia.

The same sources added it was agreed that the boat 'Astra' with humanitarian aid sail again on Tuesday from Dubrovnik to Cavtat.

The Croatian side insisted on re-establishing a regular sea line between Dubrovnik and Cavtat. It, however, omitted to offer guarantees of safety to passengers and crew.

The Croatian side also insisted on the issue of the withdrawal of the army from the areas of Cavtat and Konavle.

It agreed to talks with the representatives of the Hercegovina Corps, but, as set out, only as with a group of armed men, and not as official-representatives of the Serbian Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina army. The Serbian Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina was proclaimed by the Serbian people, which, along with the Muslims and Croats, was a constituent people in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, when the European Community recognized independence of this republic early in April.

The talks in Cavtat, as said, were also attended by the representatives of the E.C., the UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] and the International Red Cross Organization.

Army Battalion Pulls Out of Pakrac Region

LD2306135192 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in English 1205 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The Croatian Army 77th Battalion deployed in the Pakrac region are, in accordance with the decision brought by the government, in the process of pulling out of heavy artillery from the area and are also carrying out the demobilization order. The Croatian Army commander in Grubisno Polje has also stated that the Croatian forces are to totally withdraw from the frontlines in this area in two weeks' time.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Great Britain

LD2506110392 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Great Britain today proposed to Croatia the establishment of diplomatic relations. Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd sent a note to Croatian Foreign Minister Zdenko Skrabalo proposing the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

By accepting the note today, the Republic of Croatia has officially established diplomatic relations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Parliament Deputies Criticize Ljubljanska Banka

92BA1072E Ljubljana DNEVNIK in Slovene 8 Jun 92 p 5

[Article by Alfons Soljan: "Confiscation of Slovene Property?"]

[Text] *Croatian depositors impatiently waited for news of what would happen with the old foreign exchange savings; proposals by some deputies in the Croatian parliament; pressures against Slovenia and Ljubljanska Banka [LB].*

Zagreb, 8 Jun—A million Croatian depositors very impatiently waited for news about the fate of a draft law in connection with the so-called old foreign exchange savings, which Deputy Josko Kovac has been persistently trying to put on the Croatian Assembly's agenda for several months now.

Let us recall that the old foreign exchange savings (the ones from 17 April 1991) amount to about $3 billion, of which $2.2 billion is in Croatian banks, and $800 million is in the banks of the former Yugoslav republics, among which LB has the biggest share. Josko Kovac was very harsh with respect to LB's conduct toward the Croatian depositors, and proposed the confiscation of Slovene property in Croatia. Ivan Milas, who according to unofficial information is a candidate for minister of justice, was no less critical; he claimed that LB had robbed Croatian depositors of a million German marks, with which Slovene enterprises were operating. In his opinion, this should be considered when the accounts are settled among the former Yugoslav republics.

Croatian Finance Minister Jozo Martinovic advised Croatian depositors to claim their rights from LB, and he denied incorrect claims that a Croatian government decree had denied the Croatian depositors' rights. Among other things, Jozo Martinovic also pointed out the fact that LB was paying Slovene depositors up to 500 German marks every month, which its branch in Zagreb was not doing.

The depositors' pressure upon Croatia is growing, in spite of all the warnings that there is no foreign exchange and that payment of the equivalent value in dinars would cause hyperinflation. Additional pressure upon Slovenia and LB can also be expected. Part of the role in this has also been assumed by individual private enterprises, lawyers, and "informal" organizations of citizens who are foreign exchange savings depositors.

Foreign Minister Rupel on Policy Objectives

92BA1072C Ljubljana DELO in Slovene
3 Jun 92 p 5

[Interview with Slovene Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel by Romana Dobnikar-Seruga; place and date not given: "We Cannot Afford Enemies"]

[Text] *After its admission to the UN, Slovenia's next goal is associate membership in the EC; personnel weakness; relations with Croatia: "The Sentilj-Zagreb road is our negotiating trump card!"*

Ljubljana, 2 Jun—The "big story" that we announced two or three years ago is ending, and "little stories" are beginning, just as in all other states that have already been part of the international community for a long time—this is how Slovene Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel characterized the period after the latest big foreign policy success, Slovenia's admission to the UN. His ministry, however, which is one of the few that can boast that it accomplished one of its key tasks a month ahead of time—admission to the UN was really not expected before 23 June—now has other very important tasks awaiting it: negotiations with the EC, the regulation of bilateral relations with the neighboring states, especially Croatia, constructive activity to halt the war in Bosnia-Hercegovina, efforts to internationalize the problem of refugees from that state, the establishment of a diplomatic and consular network abroad.... We spoke with Dr. Rupel about the ministry's new tasks.

"More than ever before, we need a suitable ministry," Minister Rupel emphasized to start with. "For the time being we are coping with $16 million in the budget, but we should have had at least $50 million. Even though the country is a small one, it has to have representations at the most important points in the world, i.e., about 30. The classification of jobs is still the same one from the time of the Committee for International Cooperation. A reorganization plan has already been prepared, and I hope that we will discuss it in the government in a week. It will probably be difficult to get enough educated people who are oriented toward foreign policy, however."

[Dobnikar-Seruga] Do you still hope to move to Mladika?

[Rupel] Yes. It has been settled now that we have solved the issue of the ethnographic museum—it will move to the former archive spaces, in Grubar Palace. The money for the renovation has been provided. Now it is time for public bidding for the contractor, and I hope that we will be in the new spaces sometime this year.

[Dobnikar-Seruga] The "assault" upon the East River was successful. What now?

[Rupel] The next goal is association with the EC. The negotiations with the Twelve are still continuing. The first step is the traditional cooperation agreement, like the one that Yugoslavia had. This agreement is very favorable to our economy. The association agreement sets tougher market conditions, but it will also bring several political alliances that we will not yet have as a party to the cooperation agreement. Some people are trying to convince us that it is not necessary for us even to conclude an association agreement, and warning that Poland and Czechoslovakia, for instance, are already having certain difficulties with that agreement....

[Dobnikar-Seruga] That is also being said by Dr. Kumar, the prime minister's adviser for that area....

[Rupel] Yes. I am nevertheless inclined to the opinion, however, that because of the political aspects Slovenia should strive for the status of an associate member of the Twelve.

[Dobnikar-Seruga] Whether it suits us or not, in the future as well an important part of Slovenia's foreign policy will be its "Yugoslav dimension," i.e., policy toward the former republics of Yugoslavia and the Yugoslav crisis. The international community is also viewing us primarily in that light.

[Rupel] We are a small factor with respect to the gigantic problems in the Balkans at this time. We are trying to keep the lines of communication open with Bosnia-Hercegovina. In connection with the war in Bosnia-Hercegovina we have written dozens of letters in order to influence the opinion of individual states. We supported Macedonia with respect to the UN and Kozyrev. Our strategy the whole time has been that the statehood of the new states in this region should be protected as much as possible, so that people will not come to the conclusion that Yugoslavia still exists.

[Dobnikar-Seruga] At this point it is appropriate to ask what kind of specific weight Slovenia even has in international relations, and how it can promote its interests.

[Rupel] With the force of weapons, numbers, or economic power—with great difficulty, but with the force of arguments, certainly. If we know how to present our arguments suitably, we will play a certain role in international politics. Our first rule is friendly relations with everyone. We cannot afford enemies. In the second place, we have to find some suitable backing, which is, from the strategic point of view, primarily the EC. During the transitional period it may possibly be the Visegrad trojka of Hungary, Poland, and Czechoslovakia. For some time I thought that our outlook was neutrality. Now, however, Switzerland, Austria, and Sweden have decided to join the EC, and it seems that there will not be much left of classic neutrality.

[Dobnikar-Seruga] It seems that one of the most difficult tests for Slovene policy will be settling relations with Croatia.

[Rupel] We have to try to make those relations as good as possible. Of course, we have difficulties. At any rate, the

key thing is for the prime ministers to reach agreements on economic cooperation, payment transactions, and the regime at the border.

[Dobnikar-Seruga] Doesn't it seem to you that we ought to be firmer with the Croats, and make it clear to them that they need us more than we need them?

[Rupel] I have already made that clear in my talks with Croatian Minister of Maritime Affairs Rudolf and on Croatian television: "You cannot get to the West except through Slovenia." The Croats, for instance, would like an agreement that we will build the Sentilj-Zagreb road jointly. That road is our trump card. I think that it is time for us to say, "Yes, we will build the Sentilj-Zagreb road, if you are prepared to reach an agreement on the Piran Bay." Threatening Croatia with Savudrija cannot help to solve the problem under any circumstances. The most important thing is to convince the Croats that there is nothing automatic about it and that there can be no discussion of having the border go through the middle of the Bay. Our goal is for the Gulf of Trieste to become an international strait. We will not yield with respect to our sovereignty over the Piran Bay. If necessary, we are prepared to start a suit before the International Court.

JAT Offices Threatened With Closure

92BA1072D Ljubljana DNEVNIK in Slovene 3 Jun 92 p 1

[Article by Miran Subic: "The Settling of Accounts With Yugoslav Air Transport Is Beginning"]

[Text] *Will they pay, or will the Yugoslav transport firm's operation in Slovenia be history? They owe 6 million tolars for various unpaid fees.*

Ljubljana, Brnik, 3 Jun—Yesterday was the "day of reckoning" between the Ljubljana Airport and the JAT [Yugoslav Air Transport] office in Ljubljana. Everything was even prepared for removal or confiscation of the property of the office in the middle of Ljubljana (JAT's office on Miklosevica, in the picture), but in the end they only did not use the harshest options for settling the disputes: "It has to do with the fact that JAT owes 6 million tolars for various unpaid fees.

"The debts even go back to last year, and we tried to protect our rights through the courts in Kranj and Ljubljana. Yesterday, at the end of the incident, there was even a court officer and everything was ready for removal of the equipment and inventory. We received confirmation from Belgrade that the rent on those spaces had expired, but in the end we agreed yesterday that JAT would settle all its obligations in 15 days," we were told by Vinko Moze, the director of the Brnik Airport. What about the office at the airport itself?

"The office at the airport is locked up. We also protected ourselves appropriately to make sure that the property would not be appropriated before there is a final division of assets and all relations between JAT and us are settled." Obviously JAT no longer has a choice; either it will immediately settle its financial obligations, or the once leading Yugoslav transport firm's operation in Slovenia will just be history. There will probably be further complications because of judicial and other procedures in settling relations, but yesterday's energetic measure obviously made it clear to everyone that things had gotten serious. Yesterday we also learned that for the time being there are no transit (humanitarian) flights through Brnik to Belgrade. As we know, that is the only type of air travel that is possible with Belgrade.

International

UN Committee Approves Humanitarian Flights

LD2406225692 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2147 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] United Nations, June 24 (TANJUG)—The special U.N. Security Council Sanctions Committee approved on Wednesday [24 June] all the so far requested overflights with humanitarian aid for the Serbian Krajinas in Croatia and Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Some ten flights from Belgrade to the airports in Banja Luka and Udbine with medical supplies for the population that has been cut off for several weeks due to U.N. sanctions and the war situation.

Twelve babies have died recently at the Banja Luka Hospital because of the delay in sending oxygen.

The Government in Belgrade has on several occasions urged through the permanent Yugoslav mission at the U.N. in New York that the proceedings concerning the issuing of permits for overflights be stepped up. President of the Yugoslav Committee for Cooperation with the U.N. Borisav Jovic sent a special letter to this effect to the U.N. secretary-general. All the requests have been stopped by the inflexible stand of the U.S. representative in the Sanctions Committee who insisted on the strict implementation of sanctions.

This stand was changed on Wednesday, so the Committee issued the permit for the material which anyhow does not fall within the restrictions imposed by the sanctions.

The Security Council has exempted from the sanctions all medical aid and foodstuffs as well as passed a special resolution allowing free flow of all articles intended for humanitarian aid. However, in the interpretation of the Sanctions Committee sources, the problem in this case was only in the procedure concerning transportation, i.e., permits for overflights through the airspace of Croatia and Bosnia-Hercegovina, for which permits had to be obtained from the governments of the two now independent states and U.N. members.

Army Denies Tutwiler Statement on Air Violations

LD2406200592 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1837 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Belgrade, 24 Jun (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Army and its Air Force have not violated the airspace of any neighboring country, including the airspace of Bosnia-Hercegovina, since 19 May, the Information Service of the Yugoslav Army chief of staff said today.

A statement issued in connection with remarks by U.S. State Department Spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler about "attacks of the Federal Air Force in some parts of Bosnia" is as follows:

Following the adoption of UN Security Council [Resolution] 757, the Army of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) is still being openly accused of involvement in clashes on the territory of Bosnia-Hercegovina. One such accusation was made by U.S. State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler at a regular news conference. When talking about the clashes in Bosnia-Hercegovina, she said: "We have reports about occasionally fierce clashes, Serbian bombardment, and attacks by the Federal Aviation in some parts of Bosnia."

In this connection, the Information Service of the Yugoslav Army chief of staff is authorized to issue the following statement:

Respecting above all its own borders as defined by the FRY Constitution, as well as the UN Security Council decision, the Yugoslav Army and its Air Force have not violated the airspace of any neighboring country, including the airspace of Bosnia-Hercegovina, since 19 May.

It is obvious that even cargo planes with humanitarian aid are waiting for permission from international organizations to take off for Bosnia-Hercegovina, which shows that we have been strictly observing the UN Security Council decision.

The chief of staff of the Yugoslav Army therefore categorically rejects such and similar incorrect information and accusations, especially because all activities in this area can be successfully and precisely located with modern technical equipment.

We once again note that former officers of the Yugoslav People's Army who have joined the army of the Serb, Muslim, or Croat people in Bosnia-Hercegovina and paramilitary formations under their command, including putting combat equipment at their disposal, are not under the control of the chief of staff of the Yugoslav Army, the statement by the Information Service of the Yugoslav Army chief of staff concludes.

Federal

Cosic Says 'Outside Factors' Want 'Capitulation'

LD2506042692 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0123 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Belgrade, June 24 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia is being at present "attacked, in fact more heavily than in 1914 and 1941" (in World Wars One and Two) and outside factors "want its national capitulation," Dobrica Cosic, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) president, cautioned Wednesday [24 June].

In the talk with a delegation of Belgrade medicine doctors, Cosic said that already ten days now he has been trying hard to find out the candidate for a federal premier-designate, "but all of that is very much trying," the FRY president's press service made it known.

In Cosic's estimate made known, "there is much of political obstruction" felt and "everybody should make his contribution since almost nothing is functioning" in the country.

In the past ten days, President Cosic has received fifty or so representatives of opposition parties, delegations and independent deputies for consultations about a new federal government's premier-to-be.

Last Monday, when the constitution-provided time limit for proposing a candidate for the federal premier post was running out, Cosic informed the presidents of the federal parliament's both houses that he necessarily needs some time more for consultations.

"I believed in civil and patriotic morals, I believed in our rallying now when we find things to be very hard indeed, but results are few," Cosic said, emphasizing that, "anyhow, what still remains and in what I believe is what the people feels in this matter."

During their meeting with President Cosic, members of the delegation of the Belgrade University clinical centre emphasized that "those wanting by an international blockade to stop medical people from working forget not only about this running counter to elementary human and moral norms but also about thus objectively exposing to danger their citizens as well."

In case of various epidemics to possibly appear in Yugoslavia, nobody would be able to stop them from spreading even beyond Yugoslavia's frontiers, the ensuing announcement has it.

Mirko Jovic, president of the opposition Serbian National Renewal (SNO) Party, said Wednesday, after a talk with President Cosic, that in the FRY elections at all levels should be scheduled at once for towards this year's end.

Even the act of announcing elections would prevent mutual conflicts and make possible for political energy to get concentrated within a joint struggle for the survival of the new federal state.

Serbia

Assembly Calls For 'Radical Changes' in Government

LD2406211292 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1714 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 24 Jun (TANJUG)—The Serbian Assembly holds that radical changes in the republican government are necessary in an effort to lift or soften Security Council sanctions. Apart from this key stand, draft conclusions which were prepared by a multi-party commission and which are due to be voted on by the (Serbian) Assembly tomorrow stress that it is necessary to call early elections at all levels by the end of this year.

Commission members stress that it is necessary to form a new federal government as a government of democratic unity, irrespective of its members' party affiliation. It is necessary to make changes in the Serbian Government, the draft conclusions say, so that the best people, irrespective of party affiliation, join the government.

The draft conclusions say that the National Assembly calls on political parties to put forward people for the government. They also propose that two multi-party advisory bodies be formed for the prevention of inter-ethnic conflicts and for strengthening international links with the Republic of Serbia.

It is necessary as soon as possible to reach an agreement between the government, the economic chamber, and trade unions with regard to ways of alleviating the effects of the sanctions. [passage omitted]

Kosovo

President Rugova Views Situation, Tasks

AU2406175892 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 19 Jun 92 p 8

["Exclusive interview" with Ibrahim Rugova, president of the Republic of Kosovo, by Vujity Tvrtko; place and date not given: "We Will Not Be a Burden for Europe"]

[Text] In his exclusive interview for our newspaper, Ibrahim Rugova expressed his conviction that all national minority groups will be considered as nations.

[Tvrtko] A parallel power was already set up before the elections. What future do you plan for this power after winning the elections?

[Rugova] We already had our own schools in private houses and our own political parties, which formed part of this parallel power. Now we are first trying to set up a parliament and establish the administration. Step by step, we will first organize the ministries and then the local authorities. The best solution would be if we were able to take over power peacefully. This would be good for the Albanian majority and for the Serbian community of Kosovo, too. In this way we might be able to avoid armed conflicts. We know that there is very little hope for this, but nevertheless we will try.

[Tvrtko] The world certainly looks upon Kosovo as a crisis area where war might break out. May I have your views on this and on the disintegration process of the former Yugoslavia?

[Rugova] The Serbian regime set up its front of attacks and violence in Kosovo, too. This is not yet the same as the one in Bosnia-Hercegovina or in Croatia, but if we do not find the right solution then, unfortunately, anything might happen here. Everyone should respect the results of our elections because they reflect the will of the majority. As for the former Yugoslavia, it was set up with

enormous sacrifices, and everyone suffered, not to mention the Albanians who were simply placed here without being asked by anyone. This Yugoslavia is now breaking up with tremendous casualties. This process could have taken place in a peaceful and civilized way, respecting the will of the peoples of the former country. It did not happen this way, and the conflict resulted in many thousands of deaths. Many people also died in Kosovo as a result of police measures.

[Tvrtko] As far as I know, you still do not have a daily newspaper or regular radio and television broadcasts in Kosovo, although more than 90 percent of the population are Albanians. What do you intend to do in this matter?

[Rugova] At the moment, we are living in a complete information blackout. We only have weekly newspapers. If we do not find a way to return Albanians to the radio and television then we will establish our own institutions—the two most effective media of today's world—in an alternative way. RILINDJA, our daily newspaper that appeared in 70,000 copies, was suspended by the local Serbian authority by force in 1990. We are working on bringing it back to life.

[Tvrtko] What do you expect from Albania, the mother country? What sort of relations do you have?

[Rugova] We expect help and solidarity. The present-day Albania is a democratic country with a democratic government. In spite of its difficult economic situation, it has a new role in the world. It is in Albania's interest to support us because half the Albanian people are living in Kosovo or in the former Yugoslavia. We expect the world to recognize the results of our elections, our rights to democratization, and our human rights. In the present political situation, recognizing the Kosovo republic would be in the best interest of the Balkans and Europe. Our republic will be a nonaligned country equally open toward Albania and Serbia.

[Tvrtko] According to some European politicians, the establishment of a united Europe without borders is not far off now. Will the very poor Kosovo be able to join this united Europe?

[Rugova] Kosovo is poor, but it is also rich in some ways. We have a labor force, and people are self-sufficient without any aid, although almost everyone has been dismissed from their places of work in the past one year. Kosovo is rich in minerals and in energy resources. We already have some experience in small scale trade and in privatization. We are aware of the fact that we are establishing a small country, but I can confidently say that we will not be a burden on Europe.

[Tvrtko] When the autonomous and independent Kosovo is established, what rights will it ensure for its national minorities, first of all the Serbs?

[Rugova] We will treat all national minority groups as nations, including the 200,000 Serbs and the few Muslims and Turks. The national minorities will have full rights in politics, the economy, and culture. The Serbs will be able to live here the same way as in Serbia. We would like to make a guarantee agreement with Serbia on a mutual basis.